



Dear Family:

Welcome to *Descubre el español con Santillana!* This year, your child will be learning Spanish by exploring the culture of eight Spanish-speaking countries. Please join us as we travel through each of the countries and communities.

Our first stop is Mexico. In this unit, your child will learn vocabulary associated with greetings and goodbyes, family members, and friends. In addition, your child will learn to use Spanish descriptive words when talking about Mexican cultural traditions and landmarks.

As your child “travels” through Mexico, you may help him or her to expand on these concepts by doing the following activities at home.

- Ask your child what he or she is learning to say in Spanish at school. Encourage your child to act as if he or she is your teacher. Ask:
 - ¿Cómo me saludas? How do you say hello to me?
 - ¿Cómo te saludo? How do I say hello to you?
 - ¿Cómo me presentas? How do you introduce me?
 - ¿Cómo te presento? How do I introduce you?
 - ¿Quiénes son los miembros de una familia? What are the names for family members?
- Encourage your child to talk about Mexico. Allow your child to talk to you in English, but encourage him or her to give some of the information in Spanish. Then, use a map of the world to ask your child where Mexico is.
- Ask your child to name the most exciting thing he or she learned about Mexico. Then have him or her draw a picture of it and write a sentence describing it. Encourage your child to write the sentence in Spanish. Allow your child to bring the drawing back to school to share with the rest of the class.

Sincerely,



Dear Family:

In this unit, your child will explore the country of Bolivia. Your child will learn vocabulary associated with clothing, colors, and community workers. In addition, your child will learn to use Spanish descriptive words when talking about the rooms of a house.

As your child “travels” through Bolivia, you may help him or her to expand on these concepts by doing the following activities at home.

- Ask your child what he or she is learning to say in Spanish at school. Encourage your child to act as if he or she is your teacher. Ask:
¿Cuál es tu ropa favorita? What is your favorite clothing?
A mí me gusta el color verde. ¿Qué color te gusta? I like the color green. What color do you like?
¿Cómo se llaman los trabajadores que conoces? How do you name the workers you know?
- Encourage your child to talk about Bolivia. Allow your child to talk to you in English, but encourage him or her to give some of the information in Spanish. Then, use a map of the world to ask your child where Bolivia is.
- Ask your child to name the most exciting thing he or she learned about Bolivia. Then have him or her draw a picture of it and write a sentence describing it. Encourage your child to write the sentence in Spanish. Allow your child to bring the drawing back to school to share with the rest of the class.

Sincerely,



Dear Family:

In this unit, your child will explore the country of El Salvador. Your child will learn vocabulary associated with time, school, and the days of the week. In addition, your child will learn to use Spanish descriptive words when talking about school activities and rules.

As your child “travels” through El Salvador you may help him or her to expand on these concepts by doing the following activities at home.

- Ask your child what he or she is learning to say in Spanish at school. Encourage your child to act as if he or she is your teacher. Ask:
¿Cómo se llaman los días de la semana?
What are the names of the days of the week?
¿Cómo se llaman tus clases? What are the names of your classes?
¿Cómo se llaman los lugares de tu escuela?
What are the names of places at your school?
¿Qué útiles usas en tu escuela? What supplies do you use at school?
- Encourage your child to talk about El Salvador. Allow your child to talk to you in English, but encourage him or her to give some of the information in Spanish. Then, use a map of the world to ask your child where El Salvador is.
- Ask your child to name the most exciting thing he or she learned about El Salvador. Then have him or her draw a picture of it and write a sentence describing it. Encourage your child to write the sentence in Spanish. Allow your child to bring the drawing back to school to share with the rest of the class.

Sincerely,



Dear Family:

In this unit, your child will explore the country of Ecuador. Your child will learn vocabulary associated with animals and food. In addition, your child will learn to use Spanish descriptive words when talking about the characteristics of animals.

As your child “travels” through Ecuador, you may help him or her to expand on these concepts by doing the following activities at home.

- Ask your child what he or she is learning to say in Spanish at school. Encourage your child to act as if he or she is your teacher. Ask:
¿Cómo se llaman las mascotas? What are pets called?
¿Cómo se llaman los animales que no son mascotas? What are animals that are not pets called?
¿Cómo se mueven los animales? How do animals move?
- Encourage your child to talk about Ecuador. Allow your child to talk to you in English, but encourage him or her to give some of the information in Spanish. Then, use a map of the world to ask your child where Ecuador is.
- Ask your child to name the most exciting thing he or she learned about Ecuador. Then have him or her draw a picture of it and write a sentence describing it. Encourage your child to write the sentence in Spanish. Allow your child to bring the drawing back to school to share with the rest of the class.

Sincerely,



Dear Family:

In this unit, your child will explore the country of Spain. Your child will learn vocabulary associated with the parts of the body, the five senses, and food. In addition, your child will learn to use Spanish descriptive words when talking about healthy habits they should follow.

As your child “travels” through Spain, you may help him or her to expand on these concepts by doing the following activities at home.

- Ask your child what he or she is learning to say in Spanish at school. Encourage your child to act as if he or she is your teacher. Ask:
¿Cómo se llaman las partes de tu cuerpo? What are the names of your body parts?
¿Qué haces con tus sentidos? I want to eat paella. What do you do with your senses?
Uso un tenedor para comer. ¿Qué usas para beber?
I use a fork to eat. What do you use to drink?
¿Cuál es tu comida favorita? What is your favorite food?
- Encourage your child to talk about Spain. Allow your child to talk to you in English, but encourage him or her to give some of the information in Spanish. Then, use a map of the world to ask your child where Spain is.
- Ask your child to name the most exciting thing he or she learned about Spain. Then have him or her draw a picture of it and write a sentence describing it. Encourage your child to write the sentence in Spanish. Allow your child to bring the drawing back to school to share with the rest of the class.

Sincerely,



Dear Family:

In this unit, your child will explore the country of Uruguay. Your child will learn vocabulary associated with the months of the year, the seasons, and the weather. In addition, your child will learn to use Spanish descriptive words when talking about places to visit.

As your child “travels” through Uruguay, you may help him or her to expand on these concepts by doing the following activities at home.

- Ask your child what he or she is learning to say in Spanish at school. Encourage your child to act as if he or she is your teacher. Ask:
¿Cómo está el tiempo? How is the weather?
¿Cómo se llaman los meses del año? What are the names of the months?
¿Cómo se llaman las estaciones? ¿Qué estación es ahora? What are the names of the seasons? What season is now?
- Encourage your child to talk about Uruguay. Allow your child to talk to you in English, but encourage him or her to give some of the information in Spanish. Then, use a map of the world to ask your child where Uruguay is.
- Ask your child to name the most exciting thing he or she learned about Uruguay. Then have him or her draw a picture of it and write a sentence describing it. Encourage your child to write the sentence in Spanish. Allow your child to bring the drawing back to school to share with the rest of the class.

Sincerely,



Dear Family:

In this unit, your child will explore the country of Puerto Rico. Your child will learn vocabulary associated with tools, professions, and occupations. In addition, your child will learn to use Spanish descriptive words when talking about electronic devices.

As your child “travels” through Puerto Rico, you may help him or her to expand on these concepts by doing the following activities at home.

- Ask your child what he or she is learning to say in Spanish at school. Encourage your child to act as if he or she is your teacher. Ask:
¿Qué trabajadores aprendiste? What workers did you learn about?
¿Dónde trabajan? Where do they work?
¿Cuáles son las reglas para usar aparatos electrónicos? Which are the rules to use electronic devices?
- Encourage your child to talk about Puerto Rico. Allow your child to talk to you in English, but encourage him or her to give some of the information in Spanish. Then, use a map of the world to ask your child where Mexico is.
- Ask your child to name the most exciting thing he or she learned about Puerto Rico. Then have him or her draw a picture of it and write a sentence describing it. Encourage your child to write the sentence in Spanish. Allow your child to bring the drawing back to school to share with the rest of the class.

Sincerely,



Dear Family:

In this final unit, your child will explore the country of Guatemala. Your child will learn vocabulary associated with celebrations and holidays.

As your child “travels” through Guatemala, you may help him or her to expand on these concepts by doing the following activities at home.

- Ask your child what he or she is learning to say in Spanish at school. Encourage your child to act as if he or she is your teacher. Ask:
¿Dónde celebras una fiesta de cumpleaños? Where do you celebrate a birthday party?
¿Qué celebraciones tenemos en nuestra comunidad? What celebrations do we have in our community?
¿Qué celebramos en nuestro país? What kind of celebrations we have in our country?
- Encourage your child to talk about Guatemala. Allow your child to talk to you in English, but encourage him or her to give some of the information in Spanish. Then, use a map of the world to ask your child where Guatemala is.
- Ask your child to name the most exciting thing he or she learned about Guatemala. Then have him or her draw a picture of it and write a sentence describing it. Encourage your child to write the sentence in Spanish. Allow your child to bring the drawing back to school to share with the rest of the class.

Thank you for accompanying your child on his or her trip through the Spanish-speaking world. We encourage you and your child to continue to learn about the Spanish language and culture by accessing Web sites containing more information about the countries studied this year. You may also consider enriching your child’s experience by establishing communication with your local Spanish-language community.

Sincerely,