



Palouse Prairie School

of expeditionary learning

Tuesday Times

Our Weekly Newsletter

Spanish Students Applying Language in Real Life

~By Maestra Gloria Conley

Recently we took the After School Spanish students and their parents to the Planetarium at WSU. Dr. Anna Dodgen, professor of Astronomy, was the presenter and talked about the planets and all the celestial bodies of our solar system. She spoke in Spanish and English and asked the students questions in Spanish. The students did very well, and at the end they sang: "The Planets" in Spanish. I had a positive feedback from her about how well they understand the language, and pronounce the words without an accent. It was a wonderful interaction. Children practicing what they had learned with Spanish speaking people are determinant for their success in learning a second language.

In our K+ Spanish class we are almost done with our unit "La Oruga Hambrienta" "The very Hungry Caterpillar". The children had a lot of fun learning the Spanish names of vegetables, fruits, drinks, coloring, playing games, doing art (making a cocoon with paper mache) and drawing their own butterfly. For closing this unit, we are planning to go on a fieldtrip to Winco. We are going to pretend that we are in Costa Rica (our country of study). The manager of the store is going to designate a Spanish speaking employee who is going to interact with the students. Each student is going to name the vegetables and fruits in Spanish and ask a question: "How much is it?" in Spanish. Finally each of them is going to buy a fruit to make a fruit salad the next day according to a Spanish recipe.

I can see the enthusiasm that the children show me when they achieve their goals of the learning targets. Both groups: The After School Spanish students and the Kindergarten+ are accountable for their own learning. Asking, helping, engaging, and supporting each other to learn a second language is the most amazing ongoing activity in our classroom.



Design Principles & Spotlights

The Having of
Wonderful
Ideas

Responsibility
for Learning

Diversity &
Inclusion

Success &
Failure

The Primacy
of Self-
Discovery

Service &
Compassion

Empathy &
Caring

Solitude &
Reflection

Collaboration
& Competition

The Natural
World

EL's 10 Design Principles reflect both our school's philosophy of education and our core values. They focus our attention on what is important and give all of us something to go back to when we need guidance. We work hard to help our students internalize these principles. One way we do that is by noticing when students are demonstrating a principle and then modeling how to recognize them for it. We call these our "EL Spotlights."

Emily Ball for concentrating on her weaving and getting it all done (sent in by Hannah); Makayla Atkinson for always staying on-task and working so well with others during CLL (sent in by Aurora); Sasha Bearman for working during all of choice time to create a math book; Meradyd Scott for focusing during scientific observations and completing everything from her list

Responsibility
for Learning

Each of us learns within and for ourselves and as a part of a group in a specific process of discovery.

Lisa LaPaglia for straightening the trays at lunch (sent in by Jared); Jared for washing 53 paintbrushes and some bowls (sent in by

Service &
Compassion

We are crew, not passengers, and are strengthened by acts of consequential service to others. We are continually asking the question, "How can I make a difference?"

Anna Steffens for wanting to be my friend (sent in by Rheanna); Rowan Richley for greeting me almost every day (sent in by Claire); Isabella Taylor and Aurora Pierzchanowski for having such great attitudes and being so welcoming to others (sent in by Gracie); Noah Lingo for saying "hi" to me each day (sent in by Tatum); Emma Carr for always greeting me when she sees me (sent in by Anna); Avery Caudill for giving me a dollar so I could buy a gameboy advance (sent in by Tyler); Milo Flint for finding a book that I said I'd love to read and bringing it over to me (sent in by Claire); Gabe Couch for noticing that Natasha was done and waiting for the music pad and handed it to her (sent in by Noah)

Empathy &
Caring

We take care of all those in our community and learn best when there is trust, sustained caring, and mutual respect

Oscar Hoffman for helping me to come up with a game that was based on all Oscar's ideas (sent in by Forest)

The Having of
Wonderful
Ideas

We all have great ideas to share. We need matter to think about, time to experiment, and time to make sense of our world.

Survey

PPSEL Fundraising

We are very interested in hearing from all our stakeholders as we finalize our plans for an Expeditionary Learning K-8 community school. Even if you don't have a soon-to-be-7th or 8th grader OR your 7th or 8th grader plans on going to the Junior High...**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

On our website, you will find links to both a parent and a student survey. These surveys will help us glean your hopes and concerns relative to schooling grades 7th and 8th. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us. Your feedback will help us to implement a program that best meets the needs of this area's adolescents.

Calling all CREW members!!!

As of yesterday, we only have 2 confirmed modules for the next round of CLL. If there is to be another session this year, we need the CREW to come forward to make it happen, especially if you who haven't volunteered with the program yet this year.

Please use your networks to help find instructors for modules your kids would like to participate in. Or if you would be willing to coordinate guest speakers/activities rather than "teach" a module, please submit a proposal for your idea... or call Krista Kramer (882-4620, kkramer@moscow.com) or Amy Ball (882-1614, aeball@att.net) ASAP. The proposed themes are either "Natural World" or "Diversity & Inclusion" but don't let that limit your imaginations.

The Primacy of Self Discovery modules have been amazing so far... with everything from a marching band to stellar self-portraits. Ask your children what they are discovering about themselves and their world.

Family Science Saturdays
Presents

"Microbes and CAT-alysts Too!"

Saturday, April 23, 10:30 am and 1:30 pm

**Palouse Discovery Science Center,
Pullman WA**

PPSEL Quilt: A group of parents are getting ready to begin working on creating a quilt that will be raffled to benefit and promote the school. We will be meeting on Monday evenings at 7pm at the Co-op to work on it so please stop by or email jesticadehart@yahoo.com if you are interested in getting involved.

Book Fair: As I hope you are aware, the PPSEL spring book fair is next week. Please look for more information to come home with you children today. There are a few book fair related reminders:

- ∞ We need volunteers to help set up, staff, and pack up the book fair. If you can help please sign up on the following google doc:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tgzzSB9mGSQfRuT9SVBbZvW9OnjeQLHcUK2hqbKP8A4/edit?hl=en&authkey=CM7iv5UH> or contact Amy Ball at aeball@att.net or 882-1614.
- ∞ This year all students will have a chance to "shop" for their favorite books on our preview day Tuesday, March 29th. They will bring their selections home for you to review. For your convenience you can use the order form sent home with your child to purchase any of these books that you wish. Simply fill out the form including: your name, contact information, and titles you wish to purchase. Include your payment or credit card information (please remember to include %6 sales tax) and return the form to school. All orders must be received before the end of the fair. The books will then be sent home with your child in a sealed bag. Please note that popular titles may sell out and will need to be ordered and delivered to you 7-10 days after the close of the fair. Of course you are always welcome to shop in person!
- ∞ A donation bag for the "One for Books" program was sent home with your child. All donations that we receive will be used to purchase books for our school. Any money that we collect will be matched by Scholastic with donations of books to national organizations that serve needy children.
- ∞ On Wednesday, March 30th students are invited to share lunch and shop the book fair with their grandparents, families, and friends. If you are interested in participating and need a lunch please return the form sent home with your child by 8:25 am on March 30th.

Please join us to make this Book Fair the BEST our school has ever seen. Our sales goal for this fair is \$1000. If we reach our goal we can earn \$600 for our teachers to spend on books and supplies for their classrooms. I look forward to seeing you at the Fair!

Board Corner

The Bylaws of Palouse Prairie require that when a Board member resigns a replacement must be elected within 90 days. The Board is pleased that Brant Miller has agreed to stand election for the seat Ashley Ater Kranov vacated. Watch for a ballot by email.

Crag Hill resigned from the Board March 4 with regrets that his research agenda at WSU was conflicting with his ability to serve effectively. Crag held the seat elected to represent Teachers. Lydia Stewart has agreed to fill in the balance of Crag's term ending in June.

Board Openings for 2011-12

The Board is seeking new members to fill three terms ending in June 2011. This is a rewarding opportunity to see the school from a different perspective. Parents, grandparents, and non-families are all welcome. You can learn more about the job here: <http://tinyurl.com/PPSBoard>

The Gratitude Project

Madeline S., Julia B. and Isabella T. are earning merit badges through the **MaryJane's Farm Young Cultivators Program**, and this project was inspired by the Thank You! badge.

These students have created a mailbox for each teacher and have slips of paper available so that students have a chance to share positive feedback with their teachers. They have shared the idea with the 1-2 CREW and asked students to use phrases like "You taught me to _____" and "I am thankful for _____" when writing to their teachers.

As a parent at Palouse Prairie School I am incredibly appreciative of all things my child's teacher does to help her succeed. In the hustle and bustle of our busy schedules I do not always find time to share this with her and I am inspired to remedy that by participating in The Gratitude Project. This is a great opportunity for us to cultivate the art of gratitude alongside our children.

Parents- get involved in The Gratitude Project by emailing positive feedback for your child's teacher to Ms. Clayton sclayton@palouseprairieschool.org, she will print out your comments and put them in the proper mailbox. You can also stop by your child's classroom and handwrite a note of thanks.

Save the Date!

Palouse Prairie School of Expeditionary Learning presents:

gr8 Night

An evening featuring plays, music, art, and presentations by PPSEL students. Light dinner and dessert will be provided. A Silent auction featuring services and goods provided by PPSEL families will benefit field work at the school.

When: April 12th 5:15pm to 8pm

Where: Kenworthy Performing Arts Center
508 South Main Street
Moscow, ID 83843-2918

How Can You Help?:

We hope to raise \$3,000 to help defray transportation and participation costs associated with field work as part of classroom expeditions and the Community- Led Learning program. Please consider donating a service or hand crafted item to our silent auction. Examples of donations include: A night of babysitting, 2 hours of lawn mowing, a dozen scones, a gourmet meal, a basket of fresh produce from your garden, a handmade necklace, or a hand knit scarf. Be creative! Please contact Krysta Ficca (kficca@hotmail.com <<mailto:kficca@hotmail.com>>) with your donation idea **no later than March 31st.**

The Moscow Food Co-op has graciously donated a main course for the event. However, we will need families to provide side dishes, desserts, and drinks. If you are able to provide food for the event please sign up in the school office or contact Amy Ball (aeball@att.net).

Dates to Remember

- 🍎 **March 26. 2011-2012 lottery Drawing**
- 🍎 **March 31, No Busing offered. Bag Lunches only**
- 🍎 **March 29-30. Book Fair**
- 🍎 **Friday, April 1, No School. Teacher Work Day.**
- 🍎 **April 12, 5:15-8:00. Gr8 Night @ the Kenworthy**