



# Moultonborough Central School

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE UNIT C

### Grade 6 Spanish and French

The year begins with a review of vocabulary from all of the stories covered the previous year. We catalogue the words from the last years stories into parts of speech, like verbs, nouns, adjectives, adverbs , prepositions and conjunctions. We talk about what role these parts of speech play in a sentence.



For the remainder of the year we follow the storytelling language method called TPRS, or Total Physical Response Storytelling. In an immersion (no English) style format we introduce simple stories that are told and acted out with gestures, a few props and lots of cognates (words that are the same in both languages). We focus on a small amount of vocabulary and a lot repetition. We use a lot of pictures and students are active participants, retelling the stories themselves for the class. Mostly the stories are a bit on the outrageous side, or silly. When we feel the students understand the format well enough we ask them to use the base of vocabulary they have and write up their own simple story and illustrate it. They are then asked to share that with the class. Students have responded well to the new method with a frequent comment being “Is class over already?”

Typically we try to do a few cultural projects as well, in Spanish we make piñatas as a culminating activity for the Cinco de Mayo unit. They also look forward to decorating their Calaveras de Azucar (sugar skulls) for their Day of the Dead celebration. In French class we explore the various francophone countries (French speaking) and work on a project to present our findings to the whole class.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD AT HOME

At the end of the year sixth graders will need to decide which language they want to sign up for in seventh grade: Latin, French or Spanish.

Encourage your child to explore what it is they like or dislike about the languages they have studied as well as any family ties to languages.

