



World Languages Newsletter



Using Cognates to Develop Comprehension in English

By: Colorín Colorado

Cognates are words in two languages that share a similar meaning, spelling, and pronunciation. While English may share very few cognates with a language like Chinese, 30-40% of all words in English have a related word in Spanish. For Spanish-speaking ELLs, cognates are an obvious bridge to the English language.

Not surprisingly, researchers who study first and second language acquisition have found that students benefit from cognate awareness. Cognate awareness is the ability to use cognates in a primary language as a tool for understanding a second language. Children can be taught to use cognates as early as preschool. As students move up the grade levels, they can be introduced to more sophisticated cognates, and to cognates that have multiple meanings in both languages, although some of those meanings may not overlap. One example of a cognate with multiple meanings is *asistir*, which means to *assist* (same meaning) but also to *attend* (different meaning).

Spanish – English Cognates Website

<http://www.colorincolorado.org/pdfs/articles/cognates.pdf>

Tamara Salgado, M. Ed.

Senior Curriculum Coordinator of World Languages



Greetings from the World Language Coordinator:

I want to wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year. As we enter the New Year with a new Administration, any optimism amongst educators is being tempered by the recession's effect state and local tax revenues. Although it may seem inappropriate to look on the bright side when so many of us are hurting, the current economic crisis offers us a golden opportunity to rethink, retool, and refinance America's greatest asset- its people. We must continue to work together with this global demand as World Languages leadership team to bring about strong schools. When we work in teams, instruction becomes more tailored to the student population and individual needs. This is what makes a tremendous difference in our student's learning. We must lead with our hearts and bring success against odds. I leave you with a quote from a man who created a wonderland that does not have language or cultural boundaries:

All your dreams can come true if you have the courage to pursue them. Our heritage and ideals, our code and standards – the things we live by and teach our children – are preserved or diminished by how freely we exchange ideas and feelings.
--- Walt Disney

Events

January

Learning Focused

23rd & 24th

February

World Language Competition

Saturday Feb 28th

Bartow High School

8:00 a.m. 12:00

Words of Wisdom



"I've never been without a country. Language is my country."

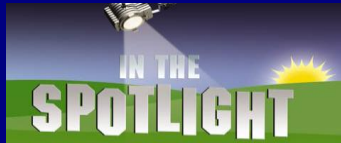
- María Zambrano



Above: Dual Language Kindergarten students at Snively Elementary School performing a science experiment. We made S'mores with solar ovens. October, 2, 2008.



January – March 2009



Favorite Food: My favorite food is Pastelon with white rice. Pastelon is a "Puerto Rican lasagna", it's cooked with strips of sweet plantains instead of the pasta.

Favorite Color: Lavender.

Family members: I am married and I have a 10 year old boy. In Puerto Rico, I have my mom, dad, two sisters, one niece and 3 nephews.

What I like about my job: I can use my Hispanic background to educate my students and communicate my cultural knowledge to them to enhance their educational learning. My biggest satisfaction is to see their shiny eyes when they reach their goals successfully. The feeling is amazing!



Ivelisse Phillips
Dual Language
Teacher of the Year!



FLAME is pleased to announce two honors recently recognized. At the ACTFL conference in November, Blanca Guerra was the FLAME Supervisor of the Year.

Tamara Salgado, World Languages Coordinator for Polk County Schools, has been seated as the new **FLAME** President for the coming year. Tamara has vast experience in overseeing the development of language programs and a keen interest in initiatives to bring them more fully into the life-long learning of Florida's school children. FLAME looks forward to her leadership and goal-setting.

National Honor Society

The National Spanish Honor Society of George Jenkins High School collected food for Thanksgiving Day. The food (66 Thanksgiving baskets and \$900 in gift certificates) were delivered to Catholic Charities on Memorial Blvd on November 13, 2008. United Way interviewed the families who needed help and Catholic Charities distributed the food to those preselected by United Way. Thank you to all those who helped us feed the needy.

The Induction Ceremony of the National Spanish Honor Society took effect on Monday, December 1, 2008 at 6:00 PM in the school Food Court. Twenty - five new members were inducted. Congratulations to the new inductees.

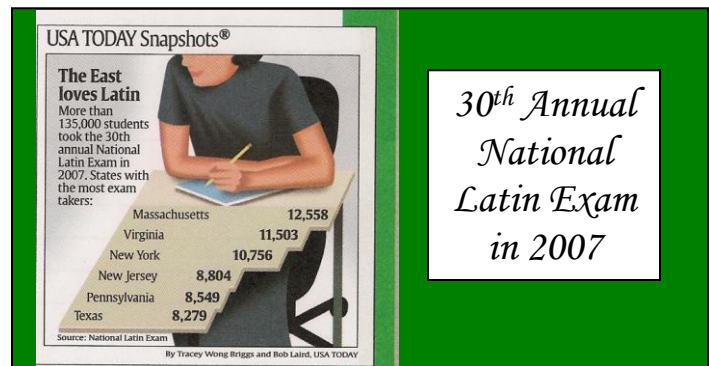
Our Holiday celebration took place on Monday, December 15. As the economy is not too good, instead of Secret Santa, we used a White Elephant Gift Exchange. It was lots of fun. Happy Holidays!

Iris Cadiz, sponsor



Our Mission:

To ensure rigorous, relevant learning experiences that result in high achievement for our students.



*30th Annual
National
Latin Exam
in 2007*

Bartow High School

On January 9, 2009, Bartow High School's Spanish Club sponsored its traditional 21st annual **Winter Ball** at the Bartow Civic Center from 8 until midnight. The students enjoyed great food, music and friends at a very elegant and memorable evening.

The proceeds from the dance are used expenses for Fl. State Spanish conference, a charitable contribution and Senior Scholarships. This year's 2009 King and Queen were **Leo Davila and Maggie Holland.**

World Language Competition 2009



Newsletter designed by: Joanne Rivera and Niomi Rodriguez