

After School Chinese Language Program

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Student Information:

Elementary school students, age 5 – 12 with no previous Chinese Language learning proficiency.
Classroom Hours: two one-hour session each week.

Objectives:

- Program focus is placed on fun learning experience for young students who are open minded to both spoken and written Mandarin Chinese.
- Chinese culture learning is another important goal which is emphasized throughout the program.

Specifically, by participating in this program students will:

- Be able to interact using basic Chinese in daily conversation after one year of learning Chinese.
- Increase interests in Chinese language and culture through class participation and involvement of Chinese language and cultural events.
- Feel the unique benefits of this supplementary Chinese language learning progress.
- Enhance other programs learning experience (including other language program) from regular school curriculum or extra-curricular activities.

Topics and Syllabus:

Four modules for the beginning: (Roughly one topic per month)

1. ***Greet people in Chinese***; Ask and answer simple yes/no questions (including numbers 1-12); Learning to write about 20-35 Characters used in conversation.

Introducing Pin Yin Foundation: The system is a method used by native Chinese speakers in Mainland China to learn the sounds of Chinese or to look up unknown characters in dictionaries (for this program, the pictorial dictionary will be used).

Structure of Chinese Syllables: A Chinese syllable consists of three elements: an initial, a final, and the tone.

Tones and tone Marks: Chinese is a tonal language, which means that the level of pitch and the contours of a word's pronunciation give the word its meaning.

2. ***Family and family life***; Introduce and talk about one's own family and ask about someone else family. Discuss and learn about similarities and differences about Chinese culture and American culture.

Introduction to Sentence Patterns: The orders of sentences and common questions words used in Chinese language.

Language in Use: With a partner practice using newly learned sentence patterns.

Vocabulary building: (learn about 20-35 written Characters and at least double the amount for use of spoken Chinese) Introduction to differences: Words pertain to family and relatives. Chinese kin terms can get very complicated, as there are different titles according to whether they are older or younger than the speaker, or different relatives from maternal or paternal side?

3. ***School life and friends;*** (learn about 20-35 written Characters and at least double of the amount for use of spoken Chinese) Learn to talk in Chinese about one's school life and make friends. Ask and say what something is and talk about courses learned in school. Forming Relationships/Study Partners: Practice with different partners to discuss some of their own favorite courses and why they like it. Find a partner to practice Chinese after class?
Places and Activities: Learn to distinguish school facilities and its usage/purpose. discuss and learn about classroom activities similarities and differences between US and China.
Fun with Chinese Idioms and Poem: Introduce a common saying or ancient poem that either utilize new vocabulary presented in the lesson or is closely related to the theme of the lesson. It's fun as lots of times the content rhymes.
4. ***Food and holidays;*** (learn about 20-35 written Characters and at least double the amount for use of spoken Chinese). A great number of students may have learned about China because of Chinese foods and China is famous for its food culture. This is always one of the most interesting fun learning experience for all students.
Types of foods and ordering foods: Ask about someone wants and present/discuss alternatives plus tell someone what you want.
Learn the similarities and differences between Chinese foods and Western foods. Chinese foods in America/Grand Haven? Students' favorite Chinese foods? Sample Chinese foods or snacks?
Language and Cultural Link: Historically, Chinese holidays have always been closely related to its cultural heritage and foods. Help students learn about cultural and historical significance while knowing about typical Chinese foods.

Four more modules for the following lessons: (About one topic per month)

1. Hobbies and sports
2. Clothing and Seasons
3. Health and Environment
4. Places and Vacation