



What I can do to celebrate THE YEAR OF LANGUAGES with my students:

- Have students design a Year of Languages T-shirt or poster.
- Sponsor a food tasting event in your classes or school-wide.
- Display student work in a showcase, in the hall or in the library.
- Collaborate with the librarian to create a LOTE display and involve students.
- Get e-pals.
- Have your students brainstorm a list of monthly themes highlighting various aspects of the target culture, such as food and music.
- Invite guest speakers to your classroom. (LOTE colleagues, parents, community members, for example)
- Have your students teach younger students in an after school program.
- Present mini-lessons in several different languages.
- Participate in AT LEAST one contest, for example, the LILT Student Language Competition.
- Think of new ways to recognize student achievement, such as posting an "Honor Roll" for each marking period or designating a "Student of the Week".

Other activities I can do that do not directly involve my students:

- Send home a department or teacher-generated newsletter.
- Expand your professional horizons: join an organization, attend a conference, write an article relating to LOTE, nominate students for LILT and NYSAFLT awards. Challenge yourself to do one new thing!
- Inform and involve your administrators. Send them notices of "special events" and invite them to your classroom.
- Celebrate Foreign Language Week.
- Visit www.liltfl.org and www.NYSAFLT.org regularly
- Share ideas with colleagues and start "celebrating" in September!

Useful Websites (suggested by Ken Hughes, NYSAFLT Webmaster)

www.quia.com (50 subject areas)

www.conjuguemos.com (French, German, Latin, Spanish)

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TEACHERS HELPING TEACHERS

MONTHLY SUGGESTIONS FOR CELEBRATING THE YEAR OF LANGUAGES - 2005

JANUARY <i>Language Policy</i>	Contact local senators, legislators to speak at your school. Write an article to publish in your local newspapers and your district newsletter
FEBRUARY <i>International Engagement</i>	Promote acquisition of Pen Pals and E-Pals, invite foreign exchange students, program directors and foreign visitors to your school. Check with the Peace Corps. Invite people who traveled abroad to speak to your students. Work with ESL teachers and their students.
MARCH <i>Connecting Languages to Other Areas</i>	Work with other departments, such as music, social studies and art on joint projects and Foreign Language Week. Contact and connect with businesses on the uses and needs for foreign languages in business. Invite local business owners to tell how foreign languages are used to enhance their business.
APRIL <i>Higher Education</i>	Find college foreign language majors willing to speak about their experiences at college and abroad. Arrange for a college foreign language course at your school. Arrange for high school upper grade level students to visit college foreign language classes. Arrange for a college professor to lecture about culture or a particular author high school students are reading or have read.
MAY <i>Foreign Language Advocacy</i>	Speak at PTA meetings about your foreign language curriculum and the importance and advantages of foreign language study. Develop a student volunteer tutoring program. Hold a parent workshop. Contact the military for speakers regarding the importance of foreign language in the military.
JUNE <i>Adult Learning & Language Usage</i>	Have adults who use foreign languages in their work to speak to student groups. Develop a Foreign language Career Center. Have students teach parents and grandparents expressions in the foreign language your students are studying.
JULY <i>Languages and Communities</i>	Arrange for concerts that highlight international music. Offer to give foreign language lessons and/or speak at local Community Centers. Make libraries aware of the Year of Languages. Create bookmarks in foreign languages. Hold summer children workshops, foreign language camps and community activities. Ask your librarian to make a display of books about other countries and the contributions of those born in those countries and the languages they speak.
AUGUST <i>Parents</i>	Meet with parents at orientation and discuss your foreign language curricula and encourage them to encourage their children to continue and/or start their study of a foreign language. Send out a mailing entitled <i>Why Study Foreign Language?</i> , either teacher made or a brochure from NYSAFLT or MLA (these can be included with the mailing of students' schedules or with a PTA mailing).
SEPTEMBER <i>Heritage Languages</i>	Ask heritage students to teach mini-lessons of their heritage language to other students and faculty. Have heritage students speak to classes about their culture and cuisine. Collaborate with ESL teachers to create a program that celebrates diversity.
OCTOBER <i>Early Language Learning</i>	Promote FLES in various ways: write an article about the advantages of starting foreign languages early for the PTA and/or district newsletter; have upper level students visit local elementary schools and talk about the foreign language program at the high school and teach mini-lessons to the elementary classes; and, arrange for elementary students to visit the middle school foreign language classes.
NOVEMBER <i>Celebrating Accomplishments & Planning Ahead</i>	Spotlight a foreign language teacher in your district newsletter. Ask foreign language students of all levels to write in the target language <i>What I Am Grateful For</i> and publish these in the school newspaper. Plan future additions to your district's foreign language program.
DECEMBER <i>Culture</i>	Have the Foreign Language Club and Language Honor Societies plan a Holiday Dance featuring international, contemporary music and international snacks. Have students do research projects about how holidays are celebrated around the world. Collaborate with the music department to have music from around the world included in its holiday concerts along with a foreign language student who can inform the audience about the composer's life and foreign language. A foreign language student can also volunteer to be the music teacher's resource person regarding the right pronunciation of foreign language lyrics.