



How to Help Your Bilingual Child

Our many monolingual parents often ask how they can help their bilingual children be successful in school. There are many things parents can do that don't require fluency in Spanish, one of the most important being to instill a love of reading, in any language! Children who enjoy reading have an "asset" that research shows is important in promoting their healthy development and ongoing academic success. (For more information about this and other developmental assets, see www.search-institute.org.)

Actions parents can take to instill a love of reading in their children:

Be a role model. Let your child see you reading something you enjoy—a book, a magazine, a how-to manual—anything you're reading for pleasure!

Take them to a library. In the past few years, new libraries have opened in Chisago, Wyoming, Forest Lake, and Maplewood. With a library card from one of your home county's libraries, you're free to check out materials from other counties' libraries.

Read to your kids! Children of all ages enjoy being read to—even 4th, 5th, and 6th graders. For reluctant readers, being read to may spark their interest in reading on their own; for those who already love reading, being read to is simply a treat. Choose a book that seems interesting to both you and your child and read a chapter a night. (If you don't enjoy reading yourself, some great books are available on tape/CD that you and your child can listen to together. Some children enjoy reading along to the recording. Pick up both the book and recording at your public library!)

At LILA, we know that developing a love of reading can have a far-reaching impact on children's lives. Therefore, one of our four school goals is that each child will read (or be read to) for an average of 15 minutes per day outside of school. Please do what you can to make sure this happens in your home.



SPIRIT WEEK!

Each year during homecoming week in Forest Lake, a group of students representing athletics, band, dance line, and other groups from the Forest Lake High School make a frenzied trip on the "Spirit Bus" to all area elementary and junior high schools to generate enthusiasm for homecoming week activities.

With former LILA students now in grades 7, 8, and 9 in the Southwest Junior High Spanish Continuation Program, LILA has been included on the Spirit Bus route this year for the first time! The Spirit Bus will travel to LILA on Wednesday, October 8.

For students, staff, and volunteers who want to take part in spirit week in other ways, the following dress code is in place for Oct 5 - 9:

Monday - Get Up & Go (Pajama day)

Tuesday - Twin day

Wed, - Wacky Wednesday

Thursday - LILA gear day

Friday - Maroon & Gold day

LILA Foundation

The LILA Foundation is off and running for the 2009-2010 school year with lots of great fundraising plans in the works. The purpose of the LILA Foundation is to raise money to support the long-term financial needs of the school now and into the future. The LILA Foundation works in partnership with the PTO, which raises funds for many current needs at LILA. We need your help to make this happen. There are many ways to get involved with the Foundation including event planning, day-of event support, or joining the Foundation board. **Please attend the next LILA Foundation meeting at LILA on Oct. 5 at 7 p.m. to find out more.** The October meeting agenda will include elections for several Foundation board positions. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Foundation President Bronwyn Schaefer Pope at bschaeferpope@msn.com or 651-464-4989.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND!

If you were unable to attend the volunteer social last week, but are interested in volunteering, then please consider volunteering to lead some of the programs listed below. Many of the volunteer opportunities DO NOT require Spanish. This is sample of the offerings that we could provide with volunteer support, but if you have other expertise or areas of interest that are not include, please contact us with your suggestions. For further information, please contact Nancy Hawkinson at nhawkinson@lakesinternational.org.

Program	Time Commitment	Duration	Grade Level	When	Training Available
Junior Great Books http://www.greatbooks.org/index.php?id=109	One Hour/Weekly	Oct-May	2-6	During School After School	October
Art Adventure http://www.artsmia.org/index.php?section_id=117	One Hour/Weekly	April	K-6	During School After School	March 4 (PM) March 16 (AM)
Math Counts-Club Program https://mathcounts.org/Page.aspx?pid=221	1-2 times a month	Oct-May	6	After School	Resources Provided
Destination Imagination http://www.idodl.org/index.php http://www.mndi.org/	Weekly	Sep-May	K-6	After School	October-February Multiple Training Dates
Scripp's Spelling Bee http://www.spellingbee.com/	Monthly	Oct-Jan	5-6	After School or Clases Especiales	Resources Provided
First Lego League http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/fli/content.aspx?id=13056	Weekly B/E Days	Sep-Feb	Ages 9-14	After School or Clases Especiales	Online Resources
Monarchs In Classroom http://www.monarchlab.umn.edu/mitc/InsectFair/Intro.aspx	Weekly B/E Days	Oct-Dec	4-6	After School or Clases Especiales	Online Resources
Word Masters	Periodically	Oct-May	3-6	After School or Clases Especiales	Practice Materials
Continental Math League	Periodically	Oct=May	2-6	During School	Practice Materials
National Geographic Bee http://www.nationalgeographic.com/geographybee/	Weekly/Monthly B/E Days	Oct-Jan	4-6	After School or Clases Especiales	Practice Materials Online Resources

"Paperless" Noticieros!

Only a handful of people told us they needed their Noticiero on paper—everyone else appears satisfied with electronic delivery. However, please help us with the transition by checking with your LILA friends and neighbors to be sure they're receiving their electronic copy!

