

The Program

Our program model is grounded in sound theory and best practices associated with an enriched instructional model that provides an additive trilingual environment. All students have the opportunity to learn a second and third language while continuing to develop their native language proficiency. At Tohuí we provide literacy and content instruction to all students through three languages and promote trilingualism and trilateracy, grade-level academic achievement, and multicultural competence. Cooperative learning strategies will foster positive interactions among students while they learn core academic curriculum. Tohuí has a cohesive, school-wide shared vision; an instructional focus and commitment to achievement and high expectations that are shared by students, parents, teachers, and administrators.

Spanish

Spanish language is taught 80% of the day ending in 45% of time by 5th grade. In the early grades, language arts, reading, and math are taught in Spanish every day. Spanish is the language students are exposed the most throughout the day. Language development is facilitated by extensive interactions among native and nonnative speakers and will be fostered thru the use of sheltering strategies to promote comprehension, visual aids and modeling instruction, allowing students to negotiate meaning. Language input is interesting, relevant, and challenging enough to promote high levels of language proficiency and critical thinking.

English

English language is taught 10% of the day ending in 45% of the time by 5th grade. In the early grades, language arts, reading, and science are taught in English every day. Language development is facilitated by extensive interactions among native and nonnative speakers and will be fostered thru the use of sheltering strategies to promote comprehension, visual aids and modeling instruction, allowing students to negotiate meaning. Language input is interesting, relevant, and challenging enough to promote high levels of language proficiency and critical thinking.

Mandarin Chinese

Mandarin Chinese is taught 10% of the day from kinder to 5th grade. Social studies and culture will be taught in Mandarin every day. Starting in kindergarten the language will be taught as a second language, meaning that the teacher will use English to support her teaching. In the early stages the teacher will use slower, expanded, simplified, and repetitive speech, highly contextualized language and gestures and communication that provides scaffolding. Starting in 2nd grade students will be immerse in the language with no use of English. Language development will be fostered thru the use of sheltering strategies to promote comprehension, visual aids and modeling instruction, allowing students to negotiate meaning. Language input is interesting, relevant, and challenging enough to promote high levels of language proficiency and critical thinking.