



For People Who Care for Young Children

SAY "HELLO" IN MANY WAYS

As we begin a new school year, we say, "Hello" to new children and get to know each other. But people say "hello" in many ways. Making a HELLO poster with your group will help children become aware that although different languages have their special words and alphabets; people communicate the same thoughts and ideas. As you make this poster and participate in the following activities, children will learn how people greet each other (say "Hello") in many different languages.

First, send a letter home with a card that says "Hello" in your child's ethnic language. Write the word "Hello" in two to each letter.

As the cards are returned, invite children to attach them to a large piece of poster board. As you introduce a new greeting, point out countries on a world map or globe where children might hear this said. Pronounce the word and invite children to repeat it after you.

Make a **Greetings Mural** to go with the poster. Invite children to draw pictures of themselves with crayons or markers. Cut out these pictures. On a bulletin board or large sheet of poster board, draw a

long line to be a sidewalk. Glue the drawings of children on the paper as though they are walking down the sidewalk, greeting each other. Draw an oval speech bubble next to each child's head. Help children write or dictate their favorite greeting in their bubble. Let children continue to add other details to the mural such as trees, houses, and pets. Display this mural along with your HELLO poster in a place where everyone can enjoy them.

If you wish, collect posters from other cultures and countries (available at travel agents), display toys and clothing of other cultures, and postcards or photos from other lands. Your local library is a wonderful place to check out books about children in other cultures. Read these aloud often during story hour.

It is very important that our children learn to understand diversity and appreciate the many cultures that exist in our country.

Dear Parents,

Your child is learning that people greet each other in many different ways. We are creating a poster that shows words of greeting in different languages and even different alphabets. Hopefully your child will be able to experience the beauty of many languages.

We would like our poster to represent all of the languages spoken by the families of children in our program as well as languages spoken by other members of our community. So we are asking you to write a greeting on the attached cards in the language spoken in your home or any language spoken by members of your family. Please use as many cards as you need. Your child may want to ask friends and community helpers to write down greetings as well.

When you next visit our program, please take a look at our HELLO poster. We hope that you will feel very welcome when we greet you in so many languages.

Sincerely,

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

GREETINGS IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Whenever you take children on a walk, take along a supply of index cards and a marker. Talk to community workers, store owners, librarians and just people you meet on the street. How do they say, "Hello"? Do they greet you in another language? Collect the many different "Hello's" {qw"Łpf"cpf" write them or invite others to write them on the index cards. When you get back to your program, add these cards to your HELLO poster.

GREETINGS STORIES

Help children create stories that begin when two people (or animals or imaginary creatures) meet and greet each other. Let them write, dictate, or draw pictures to tell their stories. You may wish to bind the stories together with a cover and put this "Greetings Book" in your Book Corner.

ANIMAL "TALK"

Talk with children about how animals communicate with each other. Have children take turns imitating the sounds made by their favorite animals. Let others guess the animal. Discuss whether one type of animal can communicate with another type. Have children pretend to be different animals in the jungle, the forest or the barnyard. Have them try to communicate with each other. Play a tape of whale or dolphin sounds; scientists have found that these animals communicate in their own "language."

HELLO Poster Games

Counting Letters: Have children look at the words on the HELLO Poster and count the letters or characters that make up each greeting. In which language does the greeting have the most letters or characters? In which does it have the fewest?

Card Games: Make up sets of cards (two of each), with greetings like the ones on your HELLO Poster. Invite children to play matching games such as Go Fish or Old Maid. Draw a picture of an old maid for the extra card. Card sets can also be used to play memory games such as Concentration.



LOTS OF GREETINGS!

Language	Greeting	Pronunciation	Other Information
Arabic	السلام عليكم	AS-sa-la-mu A-lay-kum	A formal greeting used by Arab Muslims meaning, "peace be with you." Read from right to left.
Armenian	ԲԱՐԵՒ	BAH-rev	"Good things (to you)," is the actual translation.
Chinese	你好	ni-HAO	Read from top to bottom; there are many Chinese dialects, this one is widely used.
English	Hello	heh-LO	This is an informal greeting.
German	Guten Tag	GOO-ten tak	"Good day," is the actual translation.
Greek	ΥΓΙΑ ΣΟΥ	YA-soo	This greeting literally means, "Be healthy."
Hebrew	שלום	shah-LOM	The translation of this is "Peace." Also used to say "Goodbye." Read from right to left.
Hindi	नमस्ते	na-mas-tay	This salutation is used at all times of the day, for greetings and departures. Read from right to left.
Italian	Ciao	CHOW	This is an informal greeting.
Japanese	こんにちは	kon-ni-chi-wa	Read from top to bottom. This is a general greeting. "Good afternoon" is the actual translation.
Spanish	Hola	OH-lah	This is an informal greeting.
Swahili	Jambo	jahm-BOW	This informal greeting is usually accompanied by a handshake or a slight bow.
Thai	สวัสดี	swad-DEE or sa-wa-sdi	This formal greeting can mean either "hello" or "goodbye." Children would bow to an elder.
Yoruba	E K'arọ	eKAH-ROH	"Good morning" is the actual translation.

From *The Multicultural Poster Program* by Lisa Durkin and Debby Dixler (Addison Wesley)

BOOK CORNER:

IN THE

- 📖 *Cock-A-Doodle Doo! What Does It Sound Like to You?: Learning Sounds in Other Languages* by Marc Robinson (Stewart, Tabori & Chang)
- 📖 *What Is Your Language?*
- 📖 *Can You Count Ten Toes? Count to 10 in 10 Different Languages*
- 📖 *In My Family/ En Mi Familia* by Carmen Lomas Garza (Children's Book Press)

AFTER-SCHOOLER IDEA: Fun with Pen Pals

Your school-aged children might enjoy becoming pen pals. It's a great way to learn about kids their own age who live far away and may have different interests and traditions to share. Here are a few tips to make your pen pal letter shine.

u Make sure that the person who receives your letter knows why you are writing. For example, *"Hello Jamie, My name is Kasha and I found your name and (email) address at _____ (name of pen pal club). I am from the United States (name of state) and would like to become your pen pal."*

w" Y tkvg {qwt} 1 tuv" pc og. "cig. " igpfgt" cpf" v jg" eqwpt { " (or state) you live in. Tell your pen pal about your favorite hobbies, pets, or anything else that might be a shared interest with your new friend. Be careful when it comes to revealing too much personal information to a stranger. If writing letters by snail mail, it is safer to have a return address to your afterschool program rather than your home address.

u Ask questions that the other person can answer in a letter.

u Be friendly and polite when you write your letter. Never demand that your pen pal writes you back. You can say, *"Looking forward to hearing from you."* You may need to write to several pen pals on a list in hopes that at least one will write you back.

u Make sure to close your letter with something friendly. For example, *"Your new friend, Kasha."*

International Kids Pen Pal Network

<http://www.kidsmc.com/penpal>
Check under *Find a Pen Pal* by age. It's a place to place to list children and

The Activity Idea Place

<http://www.123child.com/UBB//showthread.php?t=126>
This site is good for preschool children (along with teachers and caregivers).

Amazing Kids Pen Pals

<http://www.amazing-kids.org/AKPenPals.html>
This is an interesting pen pal site for survivors of the gulf hurricanes.

Kids Space Connection

<http://www.ks-connection.org/>
Click on visitor and go to school connection—pen pals.



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