

¡Bienvenida a la primavera! As we warmly welcome spring, world language students continue to learn and apply vocabulary and phrases to speak and engage in conversation about the world around them. Sixth and seventh grade students are working on authentic legends taken from Latino culture, and depending on the story they are learning, students are discovering how to name rooms in a house and describe animal habitats and adaptations. Eighth grade students are learning to describe themselves and others using words to talk about hair color, age, height, personality and other characteristics. They are also learning words that describe relationships to others in their family or social groups. Final projects include oral presentations, storyboards, rehearsed skits, and or interpretive listening exercises.

One of the most amazing things is that throughout each one of these topics and grade levels, literacy skills and authentic texts are used to anchor the vocabulary and build background knowledge so that students learn about language and culture, all while connecting learning to their other subject areas. Skills such as identifying problem and solution, retelling a story, and identifying main idea and details are all key skills students use as they improve their language proficiency. Can you believe that in a few short weeks students are able to use context clues to read and interpret a text in Spanish? Try this fun interpretive reading exercise at home with your child to see if you can understand the general meaning:

*“Marzo ventoso y abril lluvioso, hacen a mayo florido y hermoso.”*

So, how did you do?