

Ideas for Secondary


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Ideas for Secondary


Starters and plenaries

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <p>Suitable for all ages and stages</p> <p>Disney's Frozen - "Let It Go" Multi-Language Full Sequence</p>	5 mins	Enjoy the multilingual version of 'Let it go' song from Disney film favourite 'Frozen'.
Teach your classmates or family one word a day for Languages Week!	5 minutes	Use any of the following flashcards: Mandarin French German Spanish Italian Gaelic
Tongue twisters	5 minutes	Try a tongue twister in another language.
Telling jokes	5 minutes	French German Spanish Italian
Want to learn to sign ?	10 minutes	Simply select a country, watch and learn the sign.
Quiz	10 minutes	Interactive resource that could be used for groups or the whole class.

Ideas for Secondary Starters and plenaries


Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <p>Suitable for all ages and stages</p>		
Games in the target language	10 minutes	<p>Who wants to be a millionaire?</p> <p>Pictionary</p> <p>Guess who</p> <p>Buzz</p> <p>Simon says...</p> <p>Yes/no games</p> <p>I spy</p>
Make bunting	10 minutes	<p>Over the course of the week, learners make bunting of words in other languages, adding one section per learner per lesson. Templates readily available online (see example). Hang the completed bunting at the end of the week.</p>
False Friends	10 minutes	<p>Have fun with literacy and languages using the link to create a list of these words and their meaning to display in your classroom.</p>
Teachers talking languages	Preparation time 15 mins in class	<p>Ask your seniors to find teachers who speak another language (even if it is a little bit). Get them to record these teachers speaking the language, share them with your classes and ask pupils to guess who the teacher is, and identify/guess the language being spoken.</p>

Cultural activities

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <p>Suitable for all ages and stages</p>		
Into Film	2-3 periods	<p>Into Film have an languages pack which contains a guide to seven films in four different languages. The guides include discussion questions and activity ideas to encourage learners to ask and answer questions about films that reflect different cultures and ways of life around the world.</p>



Ideas for Secondary

Cultural activities

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <p>Suitable for all ages and stages</p>		
Writing poetry: MTOT	2 periods	Browse the Mother Tongue Other Tongue poetry resources page for links to poems in other languages, lesson ideas and other resources for writing short form poetry in the target language.
Enjoying poetry: French	15 minutes	Ready for winter coming...share this poem with an S1/S2 class. Or teach global citizenship with an older class by sharing this poem .
Enjoying poetry: German	10 minutes	The returning soldier: poem written by 11 year old schoolgirl.
Chinese fortune sticks	1 period	These are one of many fun things to do during the Moon Festival. Get more information about the festival.
Research project on famous people or inventions	2-3 periods	Research 5 famous people or inventions from a country of your choice & present some basic facts about them to class in a different language.
Want to be a superstar or the next karaoke king/queen?	2 periods	Interested in finding out the reality show talents in Germany? You could do a class survey to find the most popular song or source the lyrics and create a gap fill activity. Try using Lyrics Training to help, the website lists lots of current songs in different languages, with activities to go with them.


Ideas for Secondary

Cultural activities


Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 Suitable for all ages and stages		
Research challenge	30 mins +	Challenge to discover the many countries of the world/how many people around the world where your target language(s) is/are spoken. Could be a challenge that is done in against the clock or as a homework task, individually or collaboratively.
TV/film critic	After school	Pupils watch a TV show or film in another language and write a review for class/friends/family.
Languages in your class	1 period	Identify pupils who have EAL and find out if they would be happy to give a short talk on their country, language, culture – perhaps bringing in photos and/or props.
 Suitable for BGE		
Life in the European Union	15 mins+	Selection of online interactive games to help you explore various aspects of life, ranging from currency to lifestyle in the European Union.
Interactive reading	20 mins+	Order or download this storybook about the EU. Activity guide also available.
Marvellous Menus	1 period/ homework task	Research school meals in the country of your choice. Create a menu for a school meal in the target language.

Ideas for Secondary


Cultural activities

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <p>Suitable for Senior Phase</p>		
Fashion show	Up to 1 week	Children prepare a fashion show which reflects clothing from countries of the world or narrate the fashion show, describing the outfits in your target language.
Idioms	1 period	<p>Here are some links about idioms in different languages – pupils can be given a list and have to work out what the equivalent English idiom would be. It's never usually a direct translation! They can be given a jumbled list of the correct answers as support.</p> <p>French Spanish 1; Spanish 2 German Italian Mandarin</p>


Activities involving ICT

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <p>Suitable for all ages and stages</p>		
QR code treasure/scavenger hunt	1 hour + to prepare and try out	<p>Create a treasure hunt around classroom/school/school grounds using QR codes.</p> <p>Questions or answers to incorporate target language(s) as appropriate to learners' ages and stage.</p> <p>Find step-by-step instructions for how to create a QR code treasure/scavenger hunt here.</p>



Ideas for Secondary Activities involving ICT

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <p>Suitable for all ages and stages</p> <p>School twitter feed</p>	10 mins	Learners create a concise message about language learning in English or better still in the target language. Tweet it during LWS using #ScotlandLovesLanguages, #whylanguages and other relevant hashtags.
Social media campaign	2 periods	Learners design a social media campaign on the platform of their choice to encourage people to learn/use languages more. Present the idea to the class, and/or try it out in action!
Online and interactive games	2 periods	<p>Teacher or Senior pupils prepare a multiple-choice quiz on different European countries for younger pupils (e.g. select France – true or false – their currency is the Euro/less than 80 million tourists visit France every year). Play internet games in target language or English about aspects of daily life in the European Union.</p> <p>French English Spanish German</p>
Online gift shopping	1 period	Give students a shopping online challenge and a list of foreign stores, such as Carrefour; Monoprix; Co-op, etc and get them to select a birthday present for 3 imaginary people, give the pupils a brief profile of each character and allocate a fixed budget. Use the target language for an added challenge!


Ideas for Secondary Activities involving ICT

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <p data-bbox="172 427 472 506">Suitable for all ages and stages</p> <p data-bbox="205 725 371 801">Travel Challenge</p>	3 periods plus presentation time	<p data-bbox="778 546 1513 622">Some “customers” want you to book a holiday to ...</p> <p data-bbox="778 633 1513 801">Research best place to visit giving reasons for your choice. Make up a short travel itinerary along with some essential phrases to help them during their trip.</p> <p data-bbox="778 813 1513 931">Consider using travel brochures, postcards, maps and other reference materials such as encyclopedias and foreign magazines.</p> <p data-bbox="778 943 1513 976">https://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/index.shtml</p> <p data-bbox="778 987 1513 1016">http://www.digitaldialects.com</p>
Online food shopping	1 period	<p data-bbox="772 1084 1513 1290">Teacher checks the Carrefour website (or equivalent) in advance and makes up a set of challenges for the pupils to work out: e.g. How much are bananas per kilo this week? What is the special offer on toiletries?</p>
Virtual Tours	1 period	<p data-bbox="778 1352 1513 1429">Visit different cities around the world and see famous landmarks up close.</p> <p data-bbox="778 1440 1513 1516">Use Google Earth to find these landmarks and direct your way around famous cities.</p> <p data-bbox="778 1527 1513 1646">Viewing ‘street view’ will give you an idea of local people, height of monuments and distance between one area and another.</p> <p data-bbox="778 1657 1513 1823">Teachers could set different challenges – fastest person to stand virtually under the Eiffel Tower, travel from the Eiffel Tower to the Louvre Museum</p>
Country profile	Up to 1 week	<p data-bbox="772 1890 1513 2009">Carry out research to create a detailed profile about one of the countries where your target language is spoken. Choice of media.</p>



Ideas for Secondary Activities involving ICT

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <p>Suitable for all ages and stages</p> <p>Transport challenge</p>	1 period	<p>Look at city transport across Europe, like the subway routes, and give pupils challenges to work out for examples which line they should take to reach different destinations</p> <p>Madrid metro</p> <p>Paris metro</p> <p>Munich transport</p>
 <p>Suitable for BGE</p> <p>Links between languages</p>	10 mins +	<p>Choose from the online activities designed to help you discover where words came from and how they have travelled and influenced many different cultures including our own.</p>


Interdisciplinary learning

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <p>Suitable for BGE</p> <p>PE</p>	1 period	<p>Organise a Zumba, dance or tai-chi class together with PE or other interested colleagues.</p>
HE	2 periods	<p>Themed cuisine: prepare food such as cupcakes with flags or Madeleines for a bake sale and all proceeds go to suitable charity.</p>
Languages café	Half day event	<p>Pupils host a café with food, drink, menu, ordering and decorations in the appropriate target language. Invite pupils, staff, parents & visitors who are encouraged to order in the target language.</p>


Ideas for Secondary Interdisciplinary learning

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 Suitable for BGE		
PSE: Careers	2 periods	Use the SCILT website to promote all the different types of careers people pursue with languages. Pupils can make an attractive display from their findings to be featured in the Modern Languages corridor.
Art	2 periods	Research works by artists from Europe and create a piece of art in the same style as one of them.
Music	2 periods	Organise a Eurovision- style song contest with songs in different languages
 Suitable for Senior Phase		
Online game & e-book	15 mins +	Play the online game to explore Europe or read an online book to discover more about different languages and cultures.
Scottish European Languages Portfolio (ELP)	Ongoing	Learners can start using the Scottish ELP to record their achievements in languages at home, school and beyond.

Whole school activities

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 Suitable for all ages and stages		
Assembly	1 period of preparation, 5 mins at assembly	Pupils create a short introduction for SMT to use to introduce an assembly. Senior pupils would prepare talks/activities on importance of languages.

Ideas for Secondary Whole school activities

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <p>Suitable for all ages and stages</p> <p>Use a new language</p>	<p>Languages Week Scotland</p>	<p>Pupils create a slide in a variety of languages stating the date, time and weather. Put this on the shared drive and encourage whole staff to introduce their classes using a different language (with slide as support).</p>
<p>Lunchtime language taster sessions</p>	<p>Languages Week Scotland</p>	<p>Using staff/older pupils who speak different languages, offer drop-in lunchtime taster sessions in a range of languages not usually taught in your school</p>
<p>Whole school languages challenge</p>	<p>2 periods</p>	<p>Find out all the languages spoken in your school community. Use your artistic skills to create welcome signs in all of these languages. Best pieces of work judged by the art department can be displayed in your welcome area. Use this link to check your work!</p>
<p>Continental cuisine</p>	<p>3 periods</p>	<p>Collaborate with your school canteen to organise a range of continental dishes on offer. Allow your colleagues and young people to sample some of the following: Frikadellen/Patatas Bravas, Quiche or Spring rolls.</p> <p>Associated Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create menus in all of the languages for the dining tables • Create advertising for the event by producing posters/introducing the event at assemblies in the target language (with 1 slide in English as support)
<p>Tutor/class challenge – continental breakfast</p>	<p>1 period</p>	<p>Organise a breakfast or Spanish tapas. Pupils source authentic items and points/prizes could be allocated to tutor groups or classes who bring in the tastiest/most interesting/most original items.</p>

Ideas for Secondary

Whole school activities

Activity

Suggested timeframe

Description

Suitable for all ages and stages

Whole school celebration

2 periods


Create an international look in the entrance to your school. Put up welcome signs or flags. Use the digital screen to promote LWS for all to see as soon as they arrive at school. Enlist the support of your colleagues and pupils to make the school a hub of language activity!

- Flag face painting at lunchtime - proceeds could go to charity.
- Non-uniform day: pupils and staff wear national dress of another country.
- Link up with cluster Primary schools. Secondary pupils perform prepared short activities (role-play, songs, poems, Simon Says) to the Primary class (and vice-versa if possible). Each can give feedback on which one they preferred most.
- Pupils could also give a short lesson to younger pupils and set them a challenge, which could then be done in class or sent to secondary pupils at a later date.
- Host a European Quiz and let both Primary and Secondary pupils compete against each other!


Challenge suggestions:

- Create a French comic strip story with the imaginary characters Pierre and Céline. The best storyline wins.
- Create a profile in French for your favourite music star or sports personality.
- Choose a selection of countries around Europe that you would like to visit and create a small information leaflet about them (include in French: name; nationality; landmarks; food; picture of flag; capital city and famous people).

Ideas for Secondary Whole school activities

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <p>Suitable for all ages and stages</p> <p>Tutor time quiz</p>	Tutor time	Use a Kahoot quiz for a quick language themed activity. Choose from thousands of others or create your own.
Guess the language!	1 period	Pupils and staff across the school record a small piece in their native language. Split your young people into groups and ask them to guess the language or use the pre-recorded material here .
Surveys	2/3 periods	Ask teachers in the school what languages they can speak. Have they ever lived/travelled/worked abroad? Do they have family who live abroad? Ask pupils to discover which teachers speaks which language. Create a grid for them to fill out which might provide clues.
Fashion Show	Up to 1 week	Children prepare a fashion show which reflects clothing from countries of the world or narrate the fashion show, describing the outfits in your target language.
Add to your uniform	Preparation at home	Ask your pupils to add something to their uniform which represents the language they are learning – a French beret, ribbons in hair in the colour of the flag of the country, stripey top.

Ideas for Secondary Whole school activities

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <div style="background-color: #1a3d54; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Suitable for Senior Phase</div> <p style="text-align: center;">Sharing language learning</p>	30 mins	Upper school pupils plan and deliver a short lesson in the target language to younger pupils. The activity prepared could be to teach a song/rhyme, read a simple story or play a game.
Languages Ambassadors Fun Day	Half day event	Invite senior pupils to help plan and deliver language activities for LWS for primary learners. For example, show younger pupils how to play boules, teach a tongue twister or deliver a PE lesson in the target language.



Let us know how you celebrate
Languages Week Scotland 2024
Use the hashtag #ScotlandLovesLanguages