





Secondary

Starters and plenaries


Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 Suitable for all ages and stages 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.
Games in the target language	10 minutes	Who wants to be a millionaire? Pictionary Guess who Buzz Simon says... Yes/no games I spy
Make bunting	10 minutes	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.

Ideas for Secondary

Starters and plenaries

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 Suitable for all ages and stages		
False Friends	10 minutes	Have fun with literacy and languages using the link to create a list of these words and their meaning to display in your classroom.
Teachers talking languages	Preparation time 15 mins in class	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.

Cultural activities

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 Suitable for all ages and stages		
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 .

Ideas for Secondary

Cultural activities





Suitable for all ages and stages

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
Chinese fortune sticks	1 period	These are one of many fun things to do to mark Chinese New Year. 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.
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.


Ideas for Secondary

Cultural activities


Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <p>Suitable for all ages and stages</p> <p>Languages in your class</p>	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.
Olympic dream team	1 period +	Pick your ideal Olympic team – list the sports that you would include in the language of your choice, and add the name and nationality of your favourite sportspeople. You could create a poster or information booklet to show off your team.
 <p>Suitable for BGE</p> <p>Life in the European Union</p>	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
 <div style="background-color: #1a3d54; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Suitable for senior phase </div> 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	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. French Spanish 1 ; Spanish 2 German Italian Mandarin

Activities involving ICT

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <div style="background-color: #8e6699; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Suitable for all ages and stages </div> QR code treasure/scavenger hunt	1 hour + to prepare and try out	Create a treasure hunt around classroom/school/school grounds using QR codes. Questions or answers to incorporate target language(s) as appropriate to learners' ages and stage. Find step-by-step instructions for how to create a QR code treasure/scavenger hunt here .

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. Share it on social media during Languages Week using #ScotlandLovesLanguages.
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!

Activity

Suggested timeframe

Description

Suitable for all ages
and stages

Travel
Challenge

3 periods plus
presentation
time

Some “customers” want you to book a holiday to ...

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.

Consider using travel brochures, postcards, maps and other reference materials such as encyclopedias and foreign magazines.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/index.shtml>

<http://www.digitaldialects.com>

Online food
shopping

1 period

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?

Virtual Tours

1 period

Visit different cities around the world and see famous landmarks up close.

Use Google Earth to find these landmarks and direct your way around famous cities.

Viewing ‘street view’ will give you an idea of local people, height of monuments and distance between one area and another.



Teachers could set different challenges – fastest person to stand virtually under the Eiffel Tower, travel from the Eiffel Tower to the Louvre Museum

Country profile


Up to 1 week

Carry out research to create a detailed profile about one of the countries where your target language is spoken. Choice of media.



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>

Interdisciplinary learning

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <p>Suitable for BGE</p> <p>PSE: Careers</p>	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
 <p>Suitable for senior phase</p> <p>Let's explore Europe game and brochure</p>	15 mins +	Play the online game to explore Europe or read an online book to discover more about different languages and cultures.
<p>Scottish European Languages Portfolio (ELP)</p>	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
 <p>Suitable for all ages and stages</p>		
<p>Assembly</p>	<p>1 period of preparation, 5 mins at assembly</p>	<p>Pupils create a short introduction for SMT to use to introduce an assembly. Senior pupils would prepare talks/activities on importance of languages.</p>
<p>Use a new language</p>	<p>Languages Week</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>Continental cuisine</p>	<p>3 periods</p>	<p>Collaborate with your school canteen to organise a range of continental dishes on offer during LWS. 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>

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 to school.


Enlist the support of your colleagues and pupils to make the school a hub of ML 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).

Whole school activities

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <p>Suitable for all ages and stages</p>		
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.
Lunchtime language taster sessions	Languages Week	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
Whole school languages challenge	2 periods	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!

Whole school activities

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 <p>Suitable for senior phase</p> <p>Sharing language learning</p>	<p>30 mins</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Languages Ambassadors Fun Day</p>	<p>Half day event</p>	<p>Invite senior pupils to help plan and deliver language activities for EDL 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.</p>



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