

European Day of Languages 2021

Ideas for Early Years and Primary

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Create and celebrate - All languages merit celebration because 26 September is the European Day of Languages (not the Day of European Languages)

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES AND STAGES		
Words for the world competition	Closing date: Monday 25th October 2021	Why not combine EDL and COP26 by encouraging your pupils to enter our Words for the World competition? We are inviting pupils to use their words to show how the world can be a better place. This could be about climate change, helping the environment, how we treat one another, equality – whichever area they are most concerned about, or would most like to see change.
Class or whole school languages audit	1 – 2 weeks in total	Carry out an audit of all the different languages spoken in your class or school community – include staff, pupils and family members. Guess the total number of languages challenge. Then collect, display and interpret data. Share the information in a display for a prominent location in your school/on your school website/in your school newsletter/at an assembly.
Art and Design	Half a day/ Homework Task	Children study works by artists from a country and create a piece of art in the same style. Incorporate instructions in the target language.
Eurovision!	Half day event	Arrange a Eurovision-style song contest in your school with songs performed in other languages.
Design and Engineering	Half day event	Research famous landmarks from different countries. Use problem-solving strategies to construct models using a range of different media. Incorporate some target language for materials, tools, verbs for making
MIDDLE & UPPER PRIMARY (P4 – P7)		
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 official languages. Could be a challenge done against the clock or as a homework task, individually or collaboratively.
Daily life around the world	1 day – 1 week	Research daily life in a country and present in a media of choice. Include target language around routines, meals, school and leisure activities.
Games Inventors	Up to 1 week	Groups or individuals create a board game to promote/celebrate languages for others to play i.e.: What does

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		<p>the Spanish word 'Hola' mean in English? Which languages are spoken in Switzerland?</p> <p>You must know the answers to your questions!</p>
<p>Multilingual tonguetwister challenge</p>	<p>15 mins +</p>	<p>Choose a language and learn a tonguetwister in that language. Check out https://www.omniglot.com/language/tonguetwisters/index.htm</p> <p>How many times can you say your tonguetwister in a minute? Can you make a whole class film of all the different tonguetwisters? Some great examples here: https://youtu.be/SI1J2bbbOt4</p>

Let us know how you celebrate the European Day of Languages and we will post it on our EDL 2021 blog!

Email scilt@strath.ac.uk with all your EDL news.



Cultural activities

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES AND STAGES		
Community languages	Half an hour	Invite a linguist from your class/school or the local community to share knowledge and experiences with a group of learners. Share photos, clothing, food, music, dance, customs & festival.
Disney characters sing-a-long	Five minutes per song	Free downloadable resource, free TES Resource login required. Recently updated QR codes allow you to hear Disney characters singing songs from the film in the language from where the film is set.
Cultural day	Whole day	Plan a whole day of activities to celebrate based on a selection from these SCILT EDL suggestions.
Kid's Corner: EU quizzes and games	15 mins+	Selection of online interactive games to help you explore various aspects of life, ranging from currency to lifestyle in the European Union. Materials arranged in year groups (up to 9 years; ages 9-12 etc.)
MIDDLE & UPPER PRIMARY (P4 – P7)		
EDL Language quiz	30 mins +	EDL quiz with 7 categories. Also a wide range of language facts, languages games and language fun on this webpage.
Marvellous Menus	Half a day/ Homework Task	Suitable for P5-P7 Research school meals in the country of your choice. Create a menu for a school meal in the target language.
Languages Café	Half day event	Suitable for P5-P7 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.
Country Profile	Up to 1 week	Suitable for P5-P7 Carry out research to create a detailed profile in any format about one of the countries where your target language is an official language.
UPPER PRIMARY (P6 & P7)		
Fashion Show	Up to 1 week	Children prepare a fashion show which celebrates traditional clothing from countries of the world or narrate the fashion show, describing the outfits in your target language. Remember to be respectful and avoid harmful stereotypes.

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Activities involving ICT

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Social media	10 mins	On social media around 26 th September post on Twitter or Instagram about language learning in English or better still in the target language. Use hashtags #EDL2021 #coeEDL2021
Multilingual Families e-storybooks	10 mins	These engaging eBooks show why children should learn, use and retain languages. There are two eBooks, one for children aged 0-6 and one for children aged 6-10. They include interactive elements. Additional associated materials available for parents and teachers.
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 .
Digital storytelling	30 mins +	Use a free app like Puppet Pals or Chatterpix Kids to create a short animated conversation or story in your target language(s) on a digital device.
MIDDLE & UPPER PRIMARY (P4 - P7)		
Links between languages	10 mins +	Links between languages activities on the 'Passeport pour la Francophonie' site. Discover where words came from and how they have travelled and influenced many different cultures including our own.
Create an online interactive activity	1 hour +	Use Kahoot , educandy or similar to make a quiz or other interactive activity in target language.
UPPER PRIMARY (P6 & P7)		
Virtual tours	1 hour +	Use thinglink or genial.ly to create a virtual tour of places where your target language is spoken. How to guide for thinglink and How to guide for genial.ly .

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Learning languages

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Fun language facts	5 mins+	Download and share these fun facts collated by NICILT
Reality check	5 mins+	Download and share these cards that explain some of the benefits of using and learning languages. Collated by NICILT.
Languages take you further	10 mins +	Use this interactive animated phrase book – free to download. Practice useful phrases in 26 different European languages.
MIDDLE & UPPER PRIMARY (P4 – P7)		
Learning languages and the four capacities	10 mins	Discuss the statements on this new poster from Education Scotland which explains how learning languages can contribute to the development of responsible citizens, confident individuals, effective contributors and successful learners.
Multilingual English	Homework Task	Identify the origin language of words and phrases widely used in English language. eg. Do you know which languages words such as <i>ballet</i> , <i>moped</i> , <i>kindergarten</i> and <i>chocolate</i> come from? Sources: https://www.dictionary.com/e/borrowed-words/ and https://www.fluentu.com/blog/english/english-words-from-other-languages/
Languages Facts and Quiz	Facts = Homework task Quiz = 30 mins	Learn language related facts then try out the quiz in groups, pairs or one on one!
UPPER PRIMARY (P6 & P7)		
Languages all around you!	Over several weeks	This booklet raises awareness of languages in everyday life. It comprises a collection of activities showing how modern languages are part of everyday life. The idea is to make pupils more aware of the importance of languages, the role they play in many aspects of young people’s experience and how languages can be learned while having fun and playing.
Scottish European Languages Portfolio (ELP)	Ongoing	Use the Scottish ELP to record achievements and experiences with different languages at home, at school and beyond.

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Learning together

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The Rights of the Language Learner	5 mins	Download and display this free poster from bsmall publishing to encourage a positive approach to language learning.
Hello! Talk to me!	5 mins	Watch and work out which languages are used by the people in this short film from the European Centre for Modern Languages.
Teach your family!	EDL week	Involve parents and carers in EDL. Promote a simple phrase each day for children to practise at home with their families.
Languagestones	Open ended	As a class, school or club, collect stones. Wash them and paint a design including a word or phrase in your target language on each stone. When complete, hide each stone in a different place around the school building, wider community or beyond for others to find. When you find someone's Language Stone, take a photo of it and then post it on the Languagestones Facebook group page and/or on social media using the #languagestones hashtag, before hiding it again. You will be able to follow the stone you made or found and to see how far it travels.
UPPER PRIMARY (P6 & P7)		
Sharing language learning	30 mins	Suitable for P6-P7 Upper school pupils plan and deliver a short lesson to younger pupil. The activity could be to teach a song/rhyme, read a simple story or play a game in a language other than English – either a spoken or a signed language
Languages Ambassadors Fun Day	Preparation/planning time required between Primary and Secondary staff/senior pupils Half day event	With support from languages department in associated secondary 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 a language other than English.



Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
See SCILT's 'EDL for Parents and Families handout' for even more ideas!		

View our EDL blogs from previous years for even more practical ideas from Scottish schools:

[EDL 2020](#)

[EDL 2019](#)

[EDL 2018](#)