

European Day of Languages 2021

Ideas for Secondary

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Starters & plenaries

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES AND STAGES		
Disney's Frozen - "Let It Go" Multi-Language Full Sequence	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 EDL week!	5 minutes	Use any of the following flashcards: Mandarin French German Spanish Italian
Learn a tongue twister in another language	5 minutes	
Telling jokes	5 minutes	French German Spanish
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.
Games in the foreign language	10 minutes	Who wants to be a millionaire? Pictionary Guess who Buzz Simon says...
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.



Cultural activities

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES AND STAGES		
Writing poetry: MTOT	2 periods	As well as EDL, it's also National Poetry day on the 7 th October 2021. 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.
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.
Greetings cards for the Moon Festival	1 period	Have a look at these colourful cards for inspiration!
Chinese festival food	1 period	Research typical foods for celebrating festivals in China.
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.
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.

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Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
BGE		
EDL Quick quiz	15 mins	5 question interactive online quiz about European Day of Languages.
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.
Senior Phase		
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.

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Activities involving ICT

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES AND STAGES		
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>
School twitter feed	10 mins	Learners create a concise message (140 characters only) about language learning in English or better still in the target language. Tweet it on or around 26 th September using #lovelanguages, #whylanguages and #EDL2016 hashtags.
Multilingual Families e-storybooks	10 mins	<p>Attractive and engaging eBooks that motivate and show why children should learn, use and retain languages. There are two eBooks for pre-primary and primary. They are specific to each of the age groups and include interactive elements.</p> <p>Additional associated materials available for parents and teachers.</p>
Online and interactive games	2 periods	<p>Teacher or Senior pupils prepare a multiple choice 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)</p> <p>Play internet games in target language or English about aspects of daily life in the European Union.</p> <p>French English Spanish German</p>
Travel Challenge	3 periods plus presentation time.	<p>Some “customers” want you to book a holiday to ...</p> <p>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>Travel brochures, postcards & Internet. Maps & globe. Reference materials (encyclopaedias, fact-files, foreign magazines...).</p> <p>http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages http://www.digitaldialects.com</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.
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 for women?
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
Transport challenge	1 period	Look at city transport across Europe, like the subway routes, and give pupils challenges to work out which line they should take to reach different destinations Madrid metro Paris metro Munich transport
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.
BGE		
Links between languages	10 mins +	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.

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Interdisciplinary Learning

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES AND STAGES		
Words for the world competition	Closing date: Monday 25th October 2021	<p>Why not combine EDL and COP26 by encouraging your pupils to enter our Words for the World competition?</p> <p>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.</p>
BGE		
PE	1 period	Organise a Zumba, dance or tai-chi class together with PE or other interested colleagues
HE	2 periods	Themed cuisine: prepare food such as cupcakes with flags or Madeleines for a bake sale and all proceeds go to suitable charity
Languages Café	Half day event	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.
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.
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.

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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.
Use a new language	EDL week	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)
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!
Continental Cuisine	3 periods	<p>Collaborate with your school canteen to organise a range of continental dishes on offer on EDL. 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 <p>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	1 period	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.
Tutor time quiz	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 .



Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
Whole School Celebration		<p>Create an international look in the entrance to your school. Put up welcome signs or flags. Use the digital screen to promote the EDL for all to see as soon as they arrive to school.</p> <p>Enlist the support of your colleagues and pupils to make the school a hub of ML activity!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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! <p><u>Challenge suggestions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create a French comic strip story with the imaginary characters Pierre and Celine. 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).
Surveys	2/3 periods	<p>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.</p>



Whole School Activities

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
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.
Senior Phase		
Sharing language learning	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	Preparation/planning time required between Primary and Secondary staff/senior pupils Half day event	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.

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

[EDL 2020](#)

[EDL 2019](#)

[EDL 2018](#)