



Latin American Cultures and Languages in the Classroom

About the project

The “Latin American Cultures and Languages in the Classroom” project was an initiative, generously funded by the Latin America Centre of Asia-Pacific Excellence, which brought together expertise and knowledge from Te Herenga Waka / Victoria University of Wellington, the University of Auckland / Waipapa Taumata Rau, and schools across Wellington / Te Whanganui-a-Tara and Auckland / Tāmaki Makaurau.

The project was funded and supported by the LAtAM CAPE as part of their ongoing work to help build New Zealanders’ language competence and cultural skills in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The project placed advanced languages and cultures students from Victoria University of Wellington and the University of Auckland as Language and Culture Assistants in schools to support teachers in bringing Spanish language and Latin American cultures into their classrooms.

About the resources

The resources introduced here were developed collaboratively by the Language and Culture Assistants, classroom teachers and language and education experts from both universities.

These resources were designed to be used flexibly by teachers in different situations ranging from those with emerging language teaching programmes and variable levels of knowledge of Spanish language (for example in Primary or Intermediate schools) as well as by teachers of Spanish in Secondary schools working with beginner learners of the language.

Each resource explores an aspect of Latin American culture used in connection with particular language topics. The intent of the resources is to promote intercultural learning by fostering reflection by the learners and establishing pertinent connections with New Zealand and beyond.



Overview of available resources

Overarching resources

- Passport
- A3 Puzzle map of Latin America

Perú – Uses of wool

- Perú teaching guide
- Perú presentation: country – Inca empire – uses of wool
- Quipu activity guide

Chile – Climas extremos

- Chile teaching guide
- Chile presentation: country – Atacama desert
- Desert survival activity guide

Ecuador – Animales del Amazonas

- Ecuador teaching guide
- Ecuador presentation: country – Animales del Amazonas
- Animales del Amazonas activity cards

Argentina – Mi calle mi ciudad

- Argentina teaching guide
- Argentina presentation: country – toponymy

This is me – Toitōi Connect

- Toitōi Connect Mexico and Colombia teaching guide
- Nicolás Paris presentation
- México presentation: country – Frida Kahlo
- Self-portrait activity guide

Vocabulary sheets (with supporting audios and videos)

- Colores
- Números
- Meses: months of the year)
- La ropa: clothes
- La familia
- La cara: the face
- El tiempo: the weather
- Objetos: objects for Chile activity
- Tamaños: sizes



Overarching resources: passport and map puzzle

The Passport resource is provided in a format that the teachers can customise to their content and purposes. It can be used for diverse purposes including:

- Using the Information page of the passport to record personal information that the students typically learn at beginner stage of Spanish language learning (their name, physical description, etc). The teacher stamps the passport every time the students correctly complete a section of the information page.
- Using the passport to record 'trips' around Latin America. Every time the class 'visits' a country and students complete the learning tasks suggested (for example using the units in the accompanying resources) the teacher provides a stamp.

The puzzle with the map of Latin America is included as a resource to be used with the passport.

Acknowledgements

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