



**VIDYA KUNJ
Gujarati School**

**Ottawa Carleton
District School**

Welcome and Kemcho!

Our Program Overview

Learning a second, third or even fourth language strengthens first-language skills and the ability to speak two or more languages generally enhances reasoning and problem solving skills, as well as creative thinking skills. It not only allows students to communicate their members of their family and other community members, but it also develops their capacity to understand and respect other cultures. In this way, second language learning prepares students to participate more effectively in the workplace and in the global economy, and provides them with a distinct advantage in a number of careers, both in Canada and internationally.

In order to maximize the benefits of this program, we ask for your support. Learning at home is just as important as coming to classes every Saturday. Speak to your child in Gujarati as much as you can and encourage (don't force) them to reply back in Gujarati. Ask your child to show you the work they have completed in class every week and ask them to teach you a few new things! Reading with your child is a great way to spend time together and encourage language learning. There are many dual language books on the market these days and they are generally classics that your child may have already read in day school. This will reinforce the value of learning a second language and will be enjoyable to the child to understand and be able to identify with the story.

The levels are as follows:

Level 1: Junior Kindergarten to Senior Kindergarten (Ages 4-6)

Level 2: Grade 1 to Grade 3 (Ages 6-8)

Level 3: Grade 4 to Grade 6 (Ages 8 – 11)

Level 4: Grade 7 to Grade 8 (Ages 11-13)

**These levels and age categories are according to the Ottawa Carleton Board of Education*

A little about this year.....

- ❖ The school year begins in September after the Labour Day long weekend and ends in June.
- ❖ It consists of **34 weeks** of Saturday language classes which begin at **9:30am sharp** and ends at 12:00pm.
- ❖ From September to the end of March classes will focus on teaching students the skills to **read, write, listen and speak Gujarati**. From April to the end of June classes will focus on a more cultural aspect where students will participate in the **annual show** to show off their singing, dancing, acting or other exciting skills!
- ❖ In order to **successfully complete the year**, students are expected to be present from September to June.
- ❖ **Report cards** will be issued at the end of the year. A copy will be sent to your child's regular day school and will be placed in their files.



Have a great year!

Level 1: Junior Kindergarten to Senior Kindergarten (Ages 4-6)

LISTENING

By the end of Kindergarten students will:

- ✓ Listen to understand simple language
 - Identify words and phrases
 - Understand short familiar oral texts
- ✓ Use listening skills in order to participate in classroom activities
 - Respond to simple, familiar questions
 - Make simple predictions when listening to a story

Examples of activities

- Describe personal experiences and retell familiar stories
- Listen and respond to language patterns in stories and poems
- Rhyme words
- Play games such as BINGO or TIC TAC TOE, Simon says
- Read poem and ask students to identify sounds or make gestures

SPEAKING

By the end of Kindergarten students will:

- ✓ Communicate basic information orally
 - Give message or information by using rehearsed words or phrases
 - Provide information about the text or pictures
 - Use familiar vocabulary and language structures to have a conversation

Examples of activities

- Songs, chants, rhymes and stories
- Retell stories, describe ideas and events and role play characters
- Use gestures, pictures and familiar words to interact during activities
- Communicate needs to peers and adults
- Asking questions after a presentation (show and tell)

READING

By the end of Kindergarten students will:

- ✓ Read and demonstrate an understanding of simple, familiar letters and words
 - Begin to recognize and read a variety of letter sounds, words or simple phrases

Examples of activities

- Read along with teacher
- Draw pictures to demonstrate comprehension of words, sentences or stories
- Recite texts or poems
- Demonstrate awareness of written conventions (reading right to left, turning pages the right way, etc)
- Identify features of a book (title, pictures, authors name etc)
- Recognize and find name tags on the desk

WRITING

By the end of Kindergarten students will:

- ✓ Be able to write most /all the letters of the alphabet
- ✓ Write a few simple 2 or 3 letter words and begin to write short sentences
- ✓ Be able to write their own name

Examples of activities

- Write using a variety of tools
- Write a short message using pictures, symbols, letters, small words
- Shared writing: contribute words or sentences to a class story written on a chart by the teacher
- Print most of the letters of the alphabet, their own names and some short words
- Label pictures
- Copy words from board

Level 2: Grade 1 to Grade 3 (Ages 6-8)

LISTENING

By the end of Grade 3 students will:

- ✓ Identify words and phrases read aloud by the teacher
- ✓ Respond to the speaker in order to continue a conversation

Examples of activities

- Listen to a song or story and select the correct words from a group of pictures
- Listen to directions to find an object in the classroom
- Listen to a song or poem and follow the directions given
- Listen to a description and draw a picture of that they hear
- Listen and retell story
- Describe a character from a story and have the student identify the character
- Listen to clues and guess what is being described
- Listen to the teacher read and retell the main ideas using words, pictures or actions
- Have a circle where everyone shares their favourite movie, activity, what they did during the week, what they want to be when they grow up, what they would do if they had no rules etc.
- Play the game where one student has to describe something without saying the word and others have to guess the word

SPEAKING

By the end of Grade 3 students will:

- ✓ Communicate information and their own original ideas orally in proper sentences with correct grammar

Examples of activities

- Begin and end conversations with friends (hello, goodbye)
- Describe family events, school events and plans
- Describe objects and situation in a story
- Describe contents of a picture
- Describe likes and dislikes about something
- Present using show and tell
- Give directions for playing games
- Present a weather report describing appropriate clothing

- Sing a song or perform a skit
- Retell story through skits, songs or puppets in small groups
- Present a project
- Ask questions to guess what a hidden object could be.
- Interview a friend

READING

By the end of Grade 3 students will:

- ✓ Use strategies to read short passages with fluency
- ✓ Read and demonstrate an understanding of a variety of simple, familiar texts

Examples of activities

- Talk about important parts of the story
- Look at the cover and predict what the story will be about
- Read sentences and match them with a picture to demonstrate understanding
- Use flashcards with pictures and words
- Build a class word list
- Sequence the events in a story using pictures
- Act out the story as a class or in small groups
- Answer questions about the text

WRITING

By the end of Grade 3 students will:

- ✓ Develop and organize ideas in writing
- ✓ Use familiar words and write short passages in full sentences

Examples of activities

- Write or copy simple words or sentences
- Label a picture
- Complete words puzzles
- Fill in the blank
- Research a topic and write about it and include pictures with labels
- Use proper grammar, spelling and punctuation
- Draw a picture and then describe it
- Write greeting cards, letters, short stories after modelling it yourself

Level 3: Grade 4 to Grade 6 (Ages 8 – 11)

LISTENING

By the end of Grade 6 students will:

- ✓ Listen to understand oral texts
- ✓ Listen and participate in conversation with fluency and correct grammar

Examples of activities

- Listen to a description of a character in a book and identify the character (drawing or verbal)
- Listen to a grocery list and guess that the speaker is planning on making
- Play 'simon says' by only describing the action
- Discuss favourite movies, books, superhero's, activity and comment on each others likes and dislikes
- Listen to and understand songs, poems, movies, stories
- Listen and retell parts of a story
- Answer questions verbally or ask questions after listening to a story or a peer speaking

SPEAKING

By the end of Grade 6 students will:

- ✓ Communicate information orally without reading from a script

Examples of activities

- Begin and end a conversation
- Describe an event
- Prepare a weather report
- Show understanding through posters, poems and songs
- Recite a tongue twister
- Read aloud a story
- In small groups, have one student begin a story, the next student continue the story and another student end the story aloud
- Ask questions and find solutions to problems
- Role play eating at a restaurant, shopping
- Give directions on how to do something

READING

By the end of Grade 6 students will:

- ✓ Read fluently
- ✓ Demonstrate understanding through verbal and written answers

Examples of activities

- Participates in read alouds and shared reading activities in class
- Retell parts of a story
- Create skits
- Use a graphic organizer to answer questions about a text
- Make up a story looking at the pictures
- Learn new words by looking at pictures

WRITING

By the end of Grade 6 students will:

- ✓ Gather and organize ideas and information in writing
- ✓ Use a wide variety of words and sentence structures to write a variety of texts (newspaper articles, essay, dialogue, advertisement etc)

Examples of activities

- Use topics such as me, my family to gather ideas for writing
- Write and conduct surveys and interviews
- Use graphic organisers to organise ideas
- Write a postcard to a friend or a letter to family
- Use proper punctuation and grammar in writing

Level 4: Grade 7 to Grade 8 (Ages 11-13)

LISTENING

By the end of Grade 6 students will:

- ✓ Listen to demonstrate understanding spoken language and orally read texts by self and others

Examples of activities

- Listen to songs and identify familiar words and expressions
- Listen to and record directions for going to a location using words, drawings and symbols
- Listen to a guest speaker and follow up by asking questions
- Listen to another person's opinion and respond by giving their opinion

SPEAKING

By the end of Grade 6 students will:

- ✓ Communicate information orally without reading from a script using correct grammar and pronunciation

Examples of activities

- Offer advice to a character in a story of a classmate
- Interview a friend or family member
- Create a presentation for the class to highlight a cultural event
- Present a self-written play (in small groups)
- Create a school announcement
- Use a graphic organizer to organize information of a story or research
- Have a class debate
- Prepare a short piece and present at school events

READING

By the end of Grade 6 students will:

- ✓ Read fluently and demonstrate an understanding while applying a range of strategies to construct meaning of new words

Examples of activities

- Set aside 15 minutes for silent reading
- Discuss ideas presented in a brochure or newspaper

- Use graphic organizers to find main ideas with evidence from the text
- Read non-fiction books, reference materials to find information and new ideas to write a report
- Read new words by sounding them out, reading to the end of the sentence, guessing, using a dictionary etc
- How to read a calendar (Indian calendar with the lunar cycles)

WRITING

By the end of Grade 6 students will:

- ✓ Generate, gather, organize ideas and information in different forms to write for a specific type of audience and a specific purpose
- ✓ Use a variety of words and sentence structures

Examples of activities

- Use graphic organizers, charts, lists and webs to organize ideas
- Use guiding words such as first, then, after, and last to sequence ideas (write a recipe or directions)
- Write a vivid and detailed description of an object and have classmates guess what it is
- Write using correct verb tenses and verb agreements and conjunctions
- Create a cover for a CD/DVD using pictures, captions, descriptions etc
- Create brochures, invitations, newspaper articles
- Create directions for a board game
- Write and present a report on a country or vacation
- Label a diagram
- Research a cultural tradition (weddings, ceremonies, birth of a child, Holy, Diwali etc)