

Unit 1: In school**Day Eight: Days of the week****Objective**

Students will be able to write down a variety of days and dates that are important in their family and will be able to share this information with classmates in small groups.

Setting the Stage

Posted in front of room, several photos of famous people, such as rock stars, movie actors, cartoon characters, prominent athletes, etc., whom the students will recognize. Underneath each photo is the name of the day on which these personalities were born. The teacher can choose any day, really.

Also visible is a calendar with the names of the days of the week in the target language (TL).

Input (15 minutes)

Teacher tells the class in TL which days the famous people were born. Teacher points to him/herself and indicates on the calendar which day he/she was born. Teacher tells on which days various people in the school, such as the principal, the secretary, the janitor, etc.) were born.

Teacher then asks the class to respond to yes/no questions about the various birthdays. For example, let's say that Harry Potter was born on a Tuesday. Teacher would ask, "Was Harry Potter born on Wednesday? Was he born on Friday? Was he born on Tuesday?"

Teacher then asks either-or questions about the various birthdays. For example, "Was Harry Potter born on Wednesday or Tuesday? Was I born on (the name of day of birth) or on (name of another day)?"

Finally, teacher asks students to name the actual day of various birthdays already discussed: For example, "On what day was Cesar Millan born?"

Quick Tip

This type of comprehension check progresses from word recognition to word repetition to word usage.

Guided Practice (10 minutes)

Teacher asks these questions for at least six different months, pointing to a specific day as reference point for "today."

- *What is today's day and date?*
- *What is the day and date for tomorrow?*
- *How many days does this month have?*
- *How many days are there in a week?*

Independent Practice (15 minutes)

Four Corners

The teacher has labeled each corner of the room as names of 3 different months with a sign: Jan, Feb, Mar in one corner; April, May, June in a second corner; July, Aug, Sept in the third corner; Oct, Nov, Dec in the fourth corner.

Teacher instructs students, one at a time, to go to a specific corner and stand underneath or next to the sign. Student #1 goes to first corner, Student #2 to second corner, Student #3 to third corner, Student #4 to last corner.

When all students are standing at the various corners, Teacher hands each group a master calendar with months and days in TL. Students are to write their name on the one piece of paper the teacher hands each group. The students then are to write down:

- *the day and date of their birthday*
- *the day/date of their best friend's birthday*
- *the day/date of their parents' birthdays*
- *the name of their favorite day*
- *the name of their least favorite day*

Teacher provides a time limit of 5 minutes and keeps students on task by announcing how close the time limit is approaching, "You have only 3 minutes left...only 2 minutes left...only 1 minute left" Teacher instructs students to meet with another group and share their results with that group. (3 minutes) Teacher instructs the groups to switch and meet with a new group and then to share their results.

Teacher collects this work to post on bulletin board or to count as class participation in the grade book.

Closure (5 minutes)

Students draw stick figures of their family and label each family member's birthday month and date. Students turn in this work.

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