

Chatty Chicos- Spanish for kids

Instructor: Vickie Ferguson
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Offered right here at FORD ELEMENTARY!

REGISTERING NOW For Fall 2011 Semester! A fun, weekly, 1-hour, Spanish enrichment class held **after school** right here at your child's school!

When are the classes?

Tuesdays from 9/20/11-12/20/11 directly after school: **K-2nd grade 2:30-3:30pm; 3rd-5th grade 3:40-4:40pm.** (No classes when school is out)

How much does it cost?

COST: \$165 for 1st child, sibling discount **2nd child \$150.00 for a 12 week session**
(Call or email if you would like to make two payments of \$82.50)

A portion of your registration fee benefits the Ford PTSA!

How can I register my child for Spanish?

Class size is LIMITED! 1. Complete the registration form below 2. **Make check payable to Vickie Ferguson** 3. Send registration form & check in an envelope marked "PTSA/Spanish" to the **OFFICE** by the registration deadline: **Friday Sept.16, 2011** or **mail your registration** with check to the address listed above. You will receive a confirmation email* of your child's placement in Spanish class. (There are no refunds for absences, however, we review all new instruction weekly and your child will receive any missed material) *Please use current email address as all communication will be done by email.

----- Cut here & return with payment- (please complete all blanks) -----

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

Student's School: _____ **Age:** ____ **Grade:** ____ **Teacher:** _____

Parent's Name: _____

Phone #: _____ **Email Address*** _____

How will your 3-5th child arrive? ___ from ASP ___ from home

(All k-2nd students will come to Spanish directly after dismissal)

How will your k-5th child leave Spanish? ___ pick up by parent or ___ ASP

Student Allergies: _____ **Student medical conditions:** _____

Comments: _____ **Previous Spanish if any:** _____

Signature/Date: _____

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Why enroll your child in Spanish classes?

- Learning Spanish can improve your child's overall school performance.
- Children who have foreign language instruction have superior problem-solving skills.
- Children enrolled in foreign language programs score statistically higher on standardized tests such as the SAT, particularly on the verbal section of the test.
- Knowing a second language will give your child a competitive edge when entering the workforce.
- Learning Spanish makes acquiring the next foreign language easier.
- Research has shown that the earlier your child learns a foreign language, the better. The area of our brain devoted to language develops from ages three to eight. This is the optimal time for your child to learn a second language. However, even if your child is no longer under age 10, learning a second language is a valuable skill at any age, so start sooner rather than later.

It's Fun!!!!

My name is Vickie Ferguson and I am very excited about the prospect of offering enrichment Spanish to your children. I feel strongly that all children should learn another

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language and the younger that they are introduced to it the better. There are many studies that show children benefit greatly from learning another language. Improved overall school performance, superior problem solving skills and higher scores on the verbal portion of the SAT are just a few of the many advantages that have been identified. I am also a perfect example that being bilingual broadens opportunities in the work force.

I am a mother of four boys ranging in age from 7-16. I was born in Argentina where I lived until I was 5. My family then moved to Tennessee to be near my father's family where I experienced what it was like to go to school and not know the language. I quickly learned English with the help of my grandmother (who was a teacher) and other wonderful teachers at my school. Many years later I followed in the footsteps of my beloved grandmother and decided to become an elementary school teacher. I worked for the Hillsborough County school system in Tampa, Florida. I taught first grade for four years and then became the Esol (English for Speakers of other Languages) Resource teacher for my school. I taught English to small groups of children ranging from Kindergarten to fifth grade. It was a wonderful opportunity for me to work with children who felt just as bewildered as I did when I went to Kindergarten in East Tennessee speaking only Spanish. I really enjoyed seeing their progress as they became more comfortable with English and were able to communicate, make friends, and excel in the classroom.

When my husband changed jobs I left the school system to be a stay-at-home mother. I soon began teaching Spanish from my home to children ranging from preschool to middle school age. When my family and I moved to Georgia in 2000, I decided to just enjoy being a stay-at-home mom to my three young boys. In 2003, when my youngest at the time started kindergarten, I worked for 6 months as an EIP (Early Intervention Program) resource teacher at Frey Elementary. I soon found out that we would welcome another Ferguson boy and I decided to once again stay home until he started school. He started school three years ago and I am in my third year of teaching after school Spanish Enrichment classes at Montessori at Brookstone. I also taught after school Spanish last year at Ford Elementary.

I use an approach to teaching Spanish that I feel will be fun and engaging to your child. My curriculum includes a variety of teaching methods including songs, movement, games, and art projects. There will also be vocabulary lessons, story time, and learning about cultures and geography. Each class will review previous material as well as introduce new material and each semester will end with a Fiesta! I am certain that your child will feel successful and excited about learning Spanish. I look forward to working with you and your child!

Vickie Ferguson

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