LWFC
The Language Workshop for Children
767 LEXINGTON AVE, NEW YORK, NY 10065 • 212-628-2700

Teaching languages to children in schools K-12, daycares and playspaces.

Pioneers in Early Language Acquisition
www.languageworkshopforchildren.com
Dear Mr. Thibaut

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for providing our students at The Speyer Legacy School with the utmost second language acquisition experience during the 2009-2010 academic year.

From the first day we welcomed one of your teachers from the Language Workshop for Children we knew we were dealing with an imaginative, engaging and energetic teacher. Most importantly, the teacher was not only a native speaker but also a well-trained professional in the use of the techniques of the workshop. Our students were constantly engaged and enjoyed every session.

We were particularly impressed with the enriched play method the teacher used to teach Spanish to our students. The songs, the rich visual aids, and the games were well designed. It was evident how the grammatical patterns were reinforced every session and the visual aids enriched the vocabulary. In addition, the professionally produced materials as well as the workbooks that were sent home for the students to practice were very valuable. Parents commended them and used them constantly.

Once again, our sincere appreciation for providing The Speyer Legacy School such an enriched experience.

Most sincerely,

Dr. Esther Kogan
Dr. Esther Kogan
Co-Head of School for Academics
Speyer Legacy School
WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO LEARN ANOTHER LANGUAGE?

Learning languages in our globalized environment puts our kids in a better position for their future.

With over 40% of the population growth being among the Hispanic people, the stage is set for an enormous increase in Spanish usage in the United States. Knowing Spanish will give you an edge when competing for a wide range of fields.

Currently, Mandarin Chinese is spoken by over 1 billion people around the world. China has become a huge market, and business leaders are looking for people who can speak Chinese.

French is the official language in 33 countries, and French diplomats, medical researchers, fashion designers, artists, writers, musicians, chefs and filmmakers have a wide influence in the United States and the rest of the world.

These are the trends for now and in the future, and the world for which we must help our children prepare.

The sooner a child is exposed to a second language the easier it is to learn.
WHAT IS THE LANGUAGE WORKSHOP FOR CHILDREN?

Founded in 1973 by Director François Thibaut, The Language Workshop for Children offers a pioneering, curriculum-based method for teaching children a new language that combines their key ingredient for success – play.

The Language Workshop for Children is expert at capturing a youngster’s prime time to learn a new language, when he or she possesses his greatest neurological capacity to absorb and retain vocabulary and grammar, master unique sounds, and imitate native pronunciation. For more than four decades, their classes, preschools, and camps have been praised over and over by major media.

The Language Workshop for Children has developed, and time-tested, both in-curriculum and extracurricular methods for youngsters K to 12, offered through their popular classes, camps, and preschools.

PROVEN METHODS - PROVEN TEAMS

François Thibaut believes that learning a language is easy for young children if the process is entertaining and natural. Since 1973, The Thibaut Technique®, the LWFC’s unique method has been featured in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, New York Magazine, Parents Magazine, People, Ladies Home Journal, CNN, BBC, NBC, CBS, ABC, PBS, Telemundo, and Univision. For many years Mr. Thibaut’s “French Workshop for Children” was a popular feature in WNYC. More recently, CNN’s “Parenting today” Called Mr. Thibaut “one of the very few experts in teaching languages to small children”.

WHAT IS THE THIBAUT TECHNIQUE®?

With the Thibaut Technique kids learn naturally, not by translating. First they hear, then they understand, and finally they speak.

At the LWFC children are immersed in their new language through stimulating educational play and native-speaking teachers, so they can acquire an excellent, business-standard accent.

OUR TEACHERS

The LWFC exclusively employs native speaker teachers who:

- Are carefully selected,
- Are child-oriented,
- Are trained to use the Thibaut Technique,
- Speak with a business-standard accent,
- Use college-level vocabulary.

In this way, we ensure that every student learns the correct pronunciation and the right sentence structures.

“Great summer program and wonderful teacher. My son really enjoyed it!”

Mrs. Pena
FOR SCHOOLS AND DAYCARES

Whether you’re looking for an in-curriculum or an after-school program, the LWFC can tailor a program to meet your needs and match your budget.

• Are you a playspace owner?
• Do you want to appeal to more parents and reach more children?
• Are you interested in offering high quality educational play?
• Bring an LWFC teacher to your playspace!

The LWFC is a wonderful opportunity to offer first-rate French, Spanish and/or Chinese programming to your students!

• Instant access to expertly trained native speakers,
• Over four decades of experience, practice and methodology,
• No need to design a curriculum or develop your own activities,
• We bring all of our visual aids and classroom tools,
• We produce take-home materials for your students,
• Your program is personally designed and supervised by Francois Thibaut.

Add the value of the LWFC’s 40+ years of experience to your program!
MATERIALS

LWFC teachers spin child-friendly word games and teach language-rich songs -- written especially for the LWFC -- to introduce and reinforce grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation and use a child’s instinct to play. Every session, students receive a top quality, professionally produced, durable, and collectable Songs & More Workbook/CD Set (plus a LWFC Storybook for older students) to practice at home what they’re learning in class. LWFC materials are so well-respected, their Professor Toto Series won six major children’s educational media awards.

THE LWFC’S PROFESSOR TOTO MULTIMEDIA EDUCATION SERIES

The professor and his animated friends are the brainchild of François Thibaut, Founder of the renowned Language Workshop for Children and The Thibaut Technique. Professor Toto is the only children’s language animation created by a practicing specialist and child-tested in real-life in classrooms, and that’s why it works. Funny and dynamic, Professor Toto (winner of 6 awards) and his animated friends are native speakers, so youngsters acquire the right French, Spanish, Italian, Mandarin Chinese, or German pronunciation.
“I was privileged to field test the kit... the short spurt lessons follow the best practices for second language acquisition...”
Tina Lee, a public school educator, college supervisor of student teachers, parent of two adult children and a grandparent of a 27 month old recently reviewed the Chinese for Children: Professor Toto Multi-Media Language Education Kit. Her review will provide invaluable insight to those wishing to introduce or add Chinese into school and homeschool foreign language programs.

“This kit is designed to teach children ages 2 years and up a second language. The multimedia kit was developed by François Thibaut, founder and director of NYC's Language Workshop for Children. I was privileged to field test the kit with my English speaking Chinese granddaughter. After viewing a segment in Mandarin, then replaying that same portion in English, she viewed both with quiet, receptive attention. The Parent’s Guide emphasizes that the child should watch both DVD's first before moving to the activity books or audio CD. The parent guide emphasizes that viewing in English should be limited and “as soon as your child becomes familiarized with the story, he or she should move on to the target language.”

As an educator, I find that the suggestions on how to implement the program for the recommended short spurt lessons follow the best practices for second language acquisition. The approach is pedagogically sound – immersing the child in hearing, understanding, and internalizing the second language in a natural way before the child is expected to speak it.”

To assist in lesson planning, the full script of Professor Toto in Chinese is printed in English, simplified Chinese characters, and also Pin-Yin (Western phonetic Chinese). The script is intended to closely match the culture and today’s common usage. Rather than a literal word-for-word translation, the emphasis is on an eventual intuitive understanding for the word meanings.
CNN
[François Thibaut] “is one of a very few experts in teaching languages to small children.”

Parents Magazine
“6 BABY CLASSES WORTH THE $$$”

Associated Press
“There’s a world of difference between teaching young children a language with methods designed specifically and exclusively for them, such as the Thibaut Technique ... and teaching them with methods adapted from lessons for adults.”

New York Magazine
“And judging by a recent visit, they leave with a working vocabulary and an accent parents will envy. Thibaut uses action games so that youngsters learn to take direction in French, skits to sharpen communication skills, plus workbooks and tapes.”

The Wall Street Journal
“In Manhattan’s Upper East Side, well-to-do parents line up around the block to enroll their infants and toddlers in François Thibaut’s language classes ...”

Suite101.com
“At The Language Workshop for Children teachers speak only the target language in their immersion preschools and the teacher never translates ...”

Better Homes & Gardens
“Four year old Alexandra D. talks to her toy animals in Japanese. At snack time, she spontaneously shifts to French. Lindsay S. at age 8 shows an ability to carry on a basic conversation in French without the slightest English accent. Both have been students since the age of 2 at The Language Workshop for Children.”

Babble
“Thibaut has spent his life developing his own series of children’s classes (the Language Workshop for Children), teaching methods (the Thibaut Technique) and educational materials (the Professor Toto Language Education Series).”
WHAT PARENTS ARE SAYING
ABOUT THE LANGUAGE WORKSHOP

“My son attended the French language summer camp and preschool program at the Manhattan Location. He had very little French when he started the program. He enjoyed the classes, made friends and learned a lot of French through the immersion in play, arts and crafts and musical activities. The teachers in the Workshop taught him to speak French like a native speaker. The Workshop’s immersion program was a significant factor in his successful admission to one of the French schools in Manhattan. My younger son is now also enrolled. My kids both like to listen to the CD of songs from the class at night before bedtime. I found the Professor Toto dvds to be useful, as a French learning aid. I think that the teachers are great and very good at communicating with the young kids. The programs develop the kids’ social skills and increase their independence. My kids enjoy going to class at the Workshop. I strongly recommend the Language Workshop.”

Con M.

“I recently had the pleasure of sitting in on our granddaughters 20 month to 3 Y/O French class at the 66th & Lex facility. A long time school board member of a K-8 district I can appreciate the administrative detail and effort this excellent curriculum must take. All the instructors appear to uniformly adhere to the program. Our grand daughter very much enjoys the 90 minute class and at the conclusion always wants “more, more”. At home she proudly repeats and uses many of the new words she is learning.”

Proud Grandpa, K.C.

“As a licensed psychologist and a specialist in child development, I value language. I think it is important to stimulate the brain and expose children early to enhance their ability to learn. Both of my children have been enrolled in both Mandarin and French since they were 6 months old. The program is excellent. My children have participated in both the parent attended classes and the separation classes. The lessons are fun and child friendly. The supplemental materials are useful and interesting. As I speak neither language, to see my children interact with native speakers in a meaningful way in a setting outside of their class is valuable to me.

Nichole F.

“My 15-month-old daughter and I attend the mommy & me French class on Lexington & 66th, and I can’t say enough wonderful things about the program. I find myself also having fun and expanding my French tongue. From the moment we walk in the door to the moment we leave, everyone is friendly and warm towards my daughter and myself. The best part is that in a very short time, she is picking up the language. They must be doing something right!!”

Mary G.

“Both my tots are in the Saturday class in the Manhattan location and we love every minute of the class. My children are singing and speaking French more from this class than the one from the French Institute Alliance Francaise. We are glad we signed up for the whole school year.”

Chrisocici K.

“We couldn’t be happier with French for Tots. The program gave our child something he could really sink his teeth into and challenged his intellectual curiosity. Language has become a playtoy for him now. Mr. Thibaut is a unique and terrific teacher.”

Mrs. Biederman

“I see how eager the children in the class are to learn. For them, learning Spanish is play. I am a physician, and I know that the brain develops fastest when children learn language early. They grasp concepts easier and their pronunciation is perfect. That is why I am sending my children to Spanish for Tots.”

Dr. Wilczeski

“Having tried two other “French playgroups for children,” I can say with no hesitation that there is no program that can possibly compare with the LWFC. This is the only school that has exposed my child to another language in a way that she can retain.”

Mrs. Siegel

“For anyone who is serious about giving their young child the gift of a second language, the LWFC is really great! We live downtown and tried nearly every program available for children under two in French, and this is by far the most engaging, the most systematic, and the most effective...especially if you are willing to commit to attending the classes and using the simple materials they provide for home use (CD and book for each “semester”). The teachers are native speakers and trained in early childhood teaching methods. Well worth the trip and the money.”

Mrs. Oppenheimer

“It is the only program of its type that approaches language so naturally at such a young age. Mr. Thibaut really cares about the children. It shows, and they can feel it. Mr. Thibaut makes sure there are no competitive feelings in the class. Everyone gets a chance to excel.”

Mrs. Nerlino

“There is simply no other program like this ... I very much like the fact that the kids are not aware of how much they are learning. It all happens naturally. Mr. Thibaut assumes that kids are capable of learning, and they immediately rise to his expectations. His methods take them directly to proper speech.”

Mrs. Gale