

*A collection of information and links to
websites concerning
Early Language Learning*

June 2009

Manuscript Submissions

NNELL is currently seeking manuscripts for both refereed and scholarly articles for the Fall 2009 issue of its journal, *Learning Languages*. Fall submissions must focus on less commonly taught languages at the preK - grade 8 levels. Submit all manuscripts to Priscilla Russel, co-editor of *Learning Languages*, at:

Priscilla_Russel@monet.prs.k12.nj.us

Mr. Picasso Head**

Here's a way to combine art, technology and language when teaching body parts. This site is similar to an online Mr. Potato Head but it uses body parts from Picasso's paintings.

Click on the "gallery" to see other heads that have been created or click "play" to create your own. The website includes face, eyes, nose, lips, ears, eyebrows, hair, abstract shapes, and a signature in Picasso's style. Though the site is in English, second language teachers could use it to practice body parts in other languages.

Click here to check out the [Mr. Picasso Head](#) website.

** Link provided by Amy Talley.

Virtual Tour of Machu Picchu**

Take a virtual tour in English, French or Spanish of Machu Picchu. Included in the site is an introduction to Machu Picchu, a map of the city, a virtual tour, and additional links about traveling, foods, birds, and Peru. Visitors can click different points on the map to begin the tour or click the "virtual tour" tab.

Click here to visit [Machu Picchu](#).

**Link provided by Marcela Summerville.

Learning a second language is good childhood mind medicine

"Learning a second language does not cause language confusion, language delay or cognitive deficit, which have been concerns in the past. In fact, according to studies at the Cornell Language Acquisition Lab (CLAL), children who learn a second language can maintain attention despite outside stimuli better than children who know only one language."

Click here to read more of the article ["Learning a Second Language is Good Childhood Mind Medicine"](#).

Teaching Ideas for Primary Teachers**

This site offers activities and games for teaching a second language to elementary school students. Ideas for activities include colors, numbers, general ideas, and other topics. Most activities are for French, Spanish, or

German, but could be used for teaching almost any language. Examples of bulletin boards are provided and there is a section for submitting your own ideas. The site also offers links to other teaching tools.

Click here for more [Teaching Ideas for Primary Teachers](#).

** Link provided by Stephanie Anderson.

French online articles**

This website includes feature and contributing articles about learning French. It is possible to search through the archives. Current articles cover the following topics:

- Ways to Practice French
- French Grammar
- Activities
- Celebrate Holidays

Click here for more [French teaching and learning ideas](#).

** Link provided by Stephanie Anderson.

Smithsonian Global Sound Tools for Teaching

This website provides ideas and resources for educators to inspire their use of music from around the world. Included in the “Tools for Teaching” pages are activities, lesson plans, videos, and folk life education kits.

The videos feature music performances, instrument demonstrations and interviews with artists on Global Sound

Live. The videos are musical groups from Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Canada, The Caribbean, Europe, Mexico/ Central America /South America, the Middle East, and the United States of America.

Click here to learn more about the [Smithsonian Global Sound Tools for Teaching](#).

Mexico for Kids

This site belongs to the Presidency of Mexico and can be viewed in English, Spanish, French or Italian. It includes links for information about Mexico’s history, government, and biodiversity. There is information on the geography and economy of all the Mexican states. A link to the capital, Mexico City, includes videos and photographs of important sites. Part of the site is dedicated to children’s online games and crafts.

Click here to access the [Mexico for Kids website](#).

Send any information, comments, or questions for *Newsworthy* to Tammy Dann at trdann@q.com