

CALL Update

Language Magazine's selection of the latest in language and literacy technology

World Languages

Auralog: TELL ME MORE

With a wealth of content and its variety of activities, TELL ME MORE delivers robust multi-sensory learning that keeps learners of all ages and levels engaged while progressing toward language mastery. Developed by pedagogical experts and utilizing the Communicative Approach, TELL ME MORE addresses speaking, listening, reading, writing, and comprehension. Cultural activities, games, video tutorials, and authentic imagery reinforce concepts while providing learners with a multimedia learning experience.

A world leader in language acquisition for over twenty years, TELL ME MORE revolutionized the way people learn languages and continues to empower learners today with the ability to practice speaking and receive instant feedback. Advanced speech recognition technology enables learners to dialogue with native speakers within the program. Pronunciation modules featuring 3-D images demonstrate how to form the mouth in order to create sounds, thereby improving pronunciation and building learner confidence. The patented SETS technology identifies letters and syllables that a learner is struggling with and provides additional practice to address those areas. More opportunities for speaking and pronunciation practice result in faster fluency. As a stand-

alone resource or a teaching partner, TELL ME MORE's pre-defined and customizable learning paths provide self-paced, progress-driven paths to language mastery while also providing flexibility. Printable classroom support materials make great workbooks, quizzes and extend lesson reach.

TELL ME MORE programs are used worldwide as stand-alone or supplemental resources. English-language programs for children ages 4-12, and distinct K-12 and Higher Education programs are available in nine languages.

Berlitz Publishing: 601 Spanish Verbs

Brand new from Berlitz Publishing, *601 Spanish Verbs* comes with an iPod download of phrases and technology-related verbs. Written by a team of experienced teachers, *601 Spanish Verbs* is loaded with new features: an alphabetical listing of the most commonly-used Spanish verbs fully conjugated in 16 tenses and moods with highlighted endings for easy reference and learning, Verb Activity pages and a Test Prep Guide with practical exercises, 75 Must Know Verbs, memory tips, spelling shortcuts, and technology-related verbs. The Text-Message Guide is for students looking to use their Spanish outside of the classroom — whether it is on Facebook or Twitter — while reinforcing the Spanish language. Teachers report *601 Spanish Verbs* is user-friendly, easy to understand, and has features for better studying. Available June 2009.



PeanutButter

PeanutButter is a new software program that focuses the learner on studying complete phrases. Students watch live video conversations and learn grammar constructions as they encounter them, which allows them to quickly begin to rearrange phrases to form new thoughts. They can customize the content as they study.

It is suitable for the individual learner, and is also a good content supplement in the classroom as it allows students to engage in fun and realistic conversation. PeanutButter Spanish presents content in six regional dialects, three difficulty settings, and has full support for grammar constructions. Its unique captioning allows study of every phrase with an English, Target Language or Word by Word translation.

PeanutButter is stand-alone desktop software compatible with PC, Mac and Linux operating systems. Basic and Deluxe iPhone versions will be available later this year.

Penton Overseas: iLearnAnywhere

Listening to audio has been the primary way to learn a language for the past 60 years. The delivery method for language labs may have changed from phonographs to CD but the primary methodology is the same. Students today are more mobile and have much less time than those of past generations. Cell phones, gaming, the Internet, and massive amounts of alternative entertainment take students away from

those necessary practice times.

Penton Overseas, a leader in language learning products, created iLearnAnywhere, taking language learning methodology from static language labs to language labs that fit in the palm of your hand. The same practice needs can now be fulfilled by listening on the go rather than sitting down in a lab.

iLearnAnywhere gives students the necessary tools to practice and review language on the go using their iPod, iPhone, or other portable media player. The iSync, iVerb, and iVideo products are all designed to review and improve students' language skills wherever they may go. All these titles can be purchased in a retail store or downloaded via the Internet. Both iVerbs and iSync offer audio spoken by native speakers with the text displayed on most players screen to enhance and increase memory. The price for each of these products is under \$20.

powerspeak K-12

powerspeak K-12 world language courses are all online and designed specifically for students in grades K-12, with different options for elementary, middle, and high school.

Spanish and French courses are available for beginners to AP students, while German, Latin and Chinese are offered at Levels 1-2.

Elementary School Levels 1-2 are geared for younger minds. Highly visual and amusing stories and activities encourage students to begin

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telling stories themselves. Emphasis is placed on acquisition of listening and reading skills, while providing a foundation for building students' capacity for speaking and writing.

Middle School Levels 1-2 turn adventures and activities into productive lessons in grammar and vocabulary. Listening comprehension, oral production, reading, writing, and cultural awareness are all emphasized in accordance with standards formulated by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

High School Levels I, II, III, and AP take students through a rigorous, yet captivating, journey of language learning with continuing emphasis on listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Vocabulary and grammar topics are introduced and reinforced in an ongoing adventure story and supporting activities. Cultural lessons and activities are included as well.

Rosetta Stone

Rosetta Stone Classroom maximizes the effectiveness of world and English language learning programs, immediately engaging students with cutting-edge, interactive technology. This award-winning software features voice-driven lessons and powerful administrative capabilities that together accelerate language learning and provide quantifiable measurements of success. Rosetta Stone Classroom technology is

scalable to any number of students, from independent study to district-wide programs, making it an ideal solution for educational institutions large and small.

Rosetta Stone Classroom features a built-in management system called Rosetta Stone Manager. This tool enables educators to monitor student progress and plan classroom lessons. Lessons are customizable, allowing educators to adjust courses based on how students learn and where they require additional attention. Rosetta Stone Classroom is easy to implement, flexible to use and easily incorporates into a teacher's overall language-learning curriculum.

Rosetta Stone Classroom offers online and CD-Rom solutions designed to meet a school's specific language needs and support its technology requirements. Offering 360° support, clients may access supplementary materials, training, and customer care teams all designed to support a productive language classroom.

Verbarrator

The Verbarrator is a software tool designed and developed to make learning Spanish verb conjugation fun and easy by engaging all three learning modalities (visual, motor, and auditory). The tool contains over 570 fully conjugated verbs in all tenses, moods, and forms with text and audio in both Spanish and English.

It allows Spanish learning students of all levels to set up customized practice drills including the ability to select and customize:

1. The Language Mode (from English to Spanish or Spanish to English).
2. Pre and Post delay timers for the program to provide the answer to the student.
3. Number of cycles to perform the customized drill.
4. The order (Random or Sequential) to perform the customized drill
5. The Person Filter (From All forms down to each individual person form such as I, You, She, He, etc.).
6. Selection of verbs by groups (such as verbs ending in -ar, -er, -ir, Spell Changing, Stem Changing, etc..) or by the individual verb being studied.
7. Up to twenty (20) verb tenses including Present Tense, Present Perfect, Imperfect, Past Perfect, Preterit, Future Perfect, Conditional Present, Subjunctive Imperfect, Infinitive, Gerund, etc..

The Verbarrator contains over 34,700 audio files in MP3 format. The "Phrase Maker" option provides the student with a complete text and audio sample phrase of the verb being studied.

Vista Higher Learning: vText Virtual Interactive Textbook

vText is a completely interactive online textbook environment which provides students (and instructors) with multi-layer interactivity in addition to replicating the content of textbook pages. Available for Introductory Spanish and French, vTexts allow students to click through the textbook page in order to complete activities, watch streaming video, listen to MP3, and access support and reference materials. Through links to the gradebook, activities assigned by instructor are also shown on each page with the due date or grade.

The variety of activities that students access through the textbook pages supports and enhances each lesson. Audio MP3s of vocabulary,

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} language) magazine says



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readings and pronunciation activities are read by a variety of native speakers. Streaming video (instructional, cultural and authentic) is supported with pre- and post activities, and optional subtitles. Online practices, flashcards, animated grammar tutorials, project web searches, and an online Oxford Mini-Dictionary are available for each lesson.

For instructors, vText provides a complete web-based management system, including the ability to enroll students in a web-based classroom roster, assign work and due dates, and track progress. Activities are a combination of auto-graded and teacher-graded, and grades are recorded in the instructor's gradebook. vText allows instructors to set grading options such as number of tries and grading parameters. Instructors also have access to planning, teaching, and assessment resources, including maps, PowerPoints, communication activity tools, and materials for differentiated instruction.

vText was created by Vista Higher Learning, a specialized publisher of world language textbooks and instructional technology for secondary and higher education.

Yabla.com: Authentic Spanish and French Video

Yabla.com is an online service that provides authentic video programming for Spanish and French language learners. With interactive captioning and speed control, rapid-fire native speech is made accessible to students at all levels. The technology exposes students to authentic media in a unique multimodal player, allowing for easy immersion into real-world language usage.

Through partnerships with top broadcasters and music labels in France, Spain, and Latin America, Yabla offers students access to engaging content and exposure to a variety of accents and speech registers.

Current programming highlights from the worlds of TV, film, and music include:

- Documentaries from independent filmmakers, TV Perú, Gallovision, Telefe, and France2 that draw students into the discourse of politics, economics, and science in contemporary societies;
- Political speeches and commercials from recent electoral campaigns;
- Television dramas (telenovelas!) and comedies;
- Over 100 music videos from labels such as Sony Latino, Sony

France, Universal Latino and Universal Europe. Styles represented include everything from salsa to folk to rock;

- Exclusive Yabla interviews with people from all strata of society, including chefs, pop stars, street hawkers, scientists, and students.

An activity to build listening skills is included with all videos. Teachers can assign videos as homework or lab assignments and also track the scores of individual students. As students complete the assignments, teachers monitor their progress through the online reporting system.

Since Yabla is entirely online, teachers and students can log-in to their individual accounts and interact with the videos from any computer.

Reading

ETA/Cuisenaire: Sunsprouts

Designed for both the regular school day, and before- and after-school programs, the SunSprouts Interactive learning station motivates students and provides meaningful interaction with ETA/Cuisenaire's SunSprouts leveled literacy series — an exclusive reading program offering both fiction and non-fiction text by award-winning authors and illustrators designed to motivate students to read.

Targeted for grades K-1, SunSprouts Interactive software enhances the reading program through independent practice by providing a computer-based literacy learning station complete with engaging activities designed to build comprehension, fluency, vocabulary skills, and writing. Students follow along onscreen as text is read to develop sight-word recognition and vocabulary. They can record their own reading and play it back to measure fluency, as well as create and illustrate original texts that can be “published” and shared with the class or sent home to parents. Assessments track the development of each student's literal, inferential, and visual comprehension skills, and the software also records students' scores for later review by the teacher. A built-in Teacher Management System generates reports to indicate student progress in comprehension, vocabulary, and sight-word recognition. Teachers also may assign specific lessons for each student, or group students with similar needs together for additional enhanced learning. **IX**