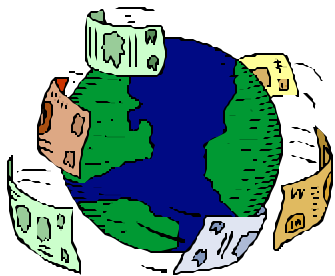


WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS
OF KNOWING MORE THAN
ONE LANGUAGE?

- *Develops a life long ability to communicate with more people*
- *Improves performance on standardized tests*
- *Prepares children to live in and understand a multi-lingual, multi-cultural society*
- *Provides a competitive advantage in the job market*
- *Provides a better understanding of English language*
- *Enhances US competitiveness in a global society*
- *Maintains US political and security interests*



Discover learning a foreign language; it will enhance your life skills forever....



Where can I get more information?

There are many resources available to help you learn about foreign language education.

- Foreign Language Association of Georgia:
[Website: www.flageorgia.org](http://www.flageorgia.org)
- Center for Applied Linguistics:
[Website: www.cal.org](http://www.cal.org)
- Georgia Coalition for Language Learning:
[Website: www.geocities.com/georgiacoalitionlanguagelearning](http://www.geocities.com/georgiacoalitionlanguagelearning)



Georgia Coalition
for
Language Learning



FOREIGN
LANGUAGE
EDUCATION IN
GEORGIA



**Georgia Coalition
For Language Learning**

*Hola! Bonjour!
 Hallo!
Ciao! Danke!
 Adios!*

*Making a case for
foreign language
education in
Georgia... .*

GET AN EARLY START IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Fact: The younger the child, the easier it is for them to learn a foreign language.

Can younger people learn a language better than adults?

According to research, children can take in and learn multiple languages without confusion until about age 10.

Does this mean they will be fluent in less time?

Not exactly. When students are exposed to language at a younger age, they are more likely to have native-like pronunciation. Some other benefits of starting early include the ability to absorb and comprehend the information, as well as a longer period to study the language.

How often should elementary students have foreign language instruction?

In order for a language program to be successful, students in grades K-5 need to have **AT LEAST** 75 minutes of instruction per week. In addition, younger students tend to be less inhibited to use the language they are learning.

What happens in middle school?

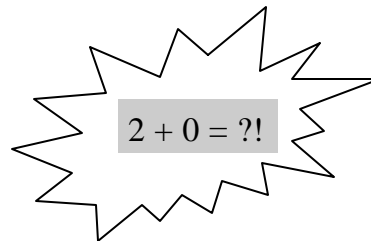
Programs that start in elementary need to be continued in middle and high school if language acquisition is to occur. Otherwise, students will show no long-term gains in their ability to communicate.

What if a program starts in middle school?

Middle school is also a good time to begin studying a foreign language!

What about the transition to high school? Programs that start in middle school need to align with the high school programs.

If you don't continue language study from one level to the next, it DOESN'T ADD UP!



AFTER ALL...

We do not expect mastery of English after 12 years of school, so why should we expect mastery of a second language in as little as two years?!

How can I help start or continue a language program at my school?

- **Get involved and tell people about the advantages of early language learning!**
- **Speak to the local school administration to express your interest in establishing a language program.**
- **Discuss languages at PTA meetings and Open Houses.**
- **Express your support for foreign language programs to local, state and national elected officials.**
- **Explore having an exchange student in your home.**



FLAG
Foreign Language Association of Georgia