

Chinese as a Second Language Program at Oak Knoll

Why learn Mandarin Chinese?

In just the San Francisco Bay Area, the Chinese language has a presence in your community. Mandarin is useful from ordering takeout to securing large business transactions, or in conversations with neighbors and friends.

Chinese is the native language of one fifth of the world's population, over a billion people. These speakers live around the world, from mainland China, Taiwan, and Singapore, to large communities in Europe, North and South America, and even Africa. As China continues to grow in prominence on the world stage in business and politics, Mandarin will also be a language that will continue to build bridges in the changing world.

Chinese as a Second Language

Chinese has been learned as a second language by many prominent world figures:

- US President **Herbert Hoover** learned it while he was a young mining engineer in China
- Current Australian Prime Minister **Kevin Rudd** regularly gives public statements in Chinese
- US Secretary of the Treasury **Tim Geithner** also studied Mandarin at Beijing University
- Canadian **Mark Roswell** has established an acclaimed presence as a Chinese comedian, actor, and television personality.

Advantage of Learning Chinese at a Young Age

Linguistically, Chinese is very different from English. Starting early is the key to developing proficiency in recognizing tones and learning basic vocabulary.

Program Description

Learning through play.

Get a fun and educational introduction to Chinese language and culture in Chinese for non-speakers. This class will make conversational Mandarin and Chinese culture accessible and interesting for beginning/intermediate speakers through stories, games, activities, and cultural events. Students will learn not only conversational skills in this increasingly popularly-learned language, but the relevant cultural context that will cultivate interest and facilitate learning Mandarin Chinese. Introductory students will discover concepts and patterns in how to communicate with Chinese rather than memorize individual words and phrases. Reading and writing will be implemented for students who are prepared for the challenge. Students will be group at their appropriate level at the first class

Meet the Teacher

Justina Liu is a native Chinese speaker. Currently she is teaching classes in Chinese, Math Game for K-5, and Sat II Math at the Menlo Park Recreation Center. Previously, she has conducted math and computer class at UC Berkeley. Contact info is: tliu8818@gmail.com 415-602-8818 (cell)

Fees: \$360 for 2 hours lessons per week. A \$50 discount will apply to the second child in a family. Please make checks payable to "Alpine Inv". 530 Lytton Ave, Suite 200, Palo Alto, Ca 94301

Chinese Program Registration

AGE GROUP: K-5 grade **DATES:** Jan 26, 2010 - May 21, 2010

DAYS: Tuesday and Friday **TIMES:** 2:55 pm -3:55pm

Student Name: _____ Grade _____ Phone #: _____
E-mail: _____ Address: _____

Year at Chinese (check): 0 month _____ 6 months _____ 1 Year _____ 2 years _____