



Basic Calendar Skills

New Vocabulary

Monday – Lunes
Tuesday – Martes
Wednesday – Miércoles
Thursday – Jueves
Friday – Viernes
Saturday – Sábado
Sunday – Domingo
Week – Semana
Weekend – Fin de semana

*** If the days of the week are new to the student(s), teach only the current month, e.g. if it is June, teach only “June.” If students already know the days of the week, teach the months of the year (see “Additional Vocabulary”).**

Learning Objectives:

To know how to use a calendar to:

- 1) Schedule appointments or classes
- 2) Track hours worked

Materials Needed:

- 1) One full-year calendar for each student to keep. calendar with the month and days of the week written clearly at the top (the Harvest Calendar does not have complete days of the week written at the top). If you are giving students the Harvest Calendar to keep, make copies of the current month from another calendar that has the month and days clearly written at the top for the purpose of the lesson.
- 2) A white board and dry erase markers
- 3) One copy per student of “Días de la Semana” p. 8 from Inglés en Minutos (Libro Uno). Use a handout for the months instead if your students already know the days of the week. The lessons can be easily adapted.
- 4) One copy per student of “Days/Months” matching handout (see last page).
- 5) Optional: 7 sheets of paper, each with an English day of the week (or month) written on it in big, bold letters (see optional practice option below).

Additional Vocabulary (for more advanced students or for use with the enhanced curriculum)

January – Enero
February – Febrero
March – Marzo
April – Abril
May – Mayo
June – Junio
July – Julio
August – Agosto
September – Septiembre
October- Octubre
November – Noviembre
December – Diciembre

Day – Día
Month – Mes
Year – Año

With advanced students, you may want to teach ordinal numbers (1st – 31st) to refer to the date:

First – Primero
Second – Segundo
Third – Tercero
Fourth – Cuarto
Fifth- Quinto
Sixth – Sexto, etc.

***Keep in mind that in Spanish ordinal numbers are used only for the 1st of the month. Other dates are referred to using the regular number, e.g. “el dos de septiembre.”**

LANGUAGE NOTE: The following lessons are intended to be taught entirely in Spanish for beginning English Language Learners. If your students are more advanced, these same lessons can be taught using as much English as is appropriate.

Time	Procedure
5 Minutes	I. Introductory discussion: Do you use a calendar? For what purposes do you use a calendar? Discuss any cultural differences around calendar use.
5 Minutes	II. Brainstorm ways in which a calendar could be helpful in your students' lives. Let your students generate ideas, but if they do not mention them, be sure to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- scheduling and remembering appointments and classes- tracking work hours and checking against paycheck
10-15 Minutes	III. Teach days of the week: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Hand out copies of page 8 from <i>Inglés en Minutos</i> (Libro Uno). (If your students know the days of the week, use a handout for the months and adapt the lesson plan below).2) Ask students to read the top half of the handout as you write the days of the week in English and Spanish on a white board.3) Using the white board text as a visual aid, have the students repeat the English days of the week in order after you say the Spanish word followed by the English word. Example: Teacher says, "Domingo, Sunday" (while pointing to corresponding text on white board). Students say, "Sunday." Practice a few times until you can point to days of the week in order on white board and students can read them. You may also erase the Spanish and, pointing to the English words, ask students to tell you the meaning in Spanish.4) Once students are comfortable with the days of the week, you can add "week/semana" and "weekend/fin de semana" to the white board list and teach using the same methods.
5-10 Minutes	IV. Practice: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Hand out "Days of the Week" matching worksheet (see last page). Have students match Spanish days with English days.2) Ask students to read their answers.3) If you have 2 or more students, give them each a sheet of paper with a day of the week written on it (make sure you choose days that are together in the week, e.g. not Monday, Tuesday, Friday). Ask the students to stand in order (Sunday to Saturday). Even if you only have 2-3 students, they can still stand in order, e.g. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. You can repeat this with new combinations of days.
15 Minutes (longer w/large group)	V. Calendar Skills: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Hand out calendar and ask students if they can find the current month. Briefly teach pronunciation of that month.3) Ask students to read out loud the days of the week at the top of the calendar.4) Brief discussion: What day does the week start with? (Explain that the week starts with Sunday in the U.S.) Is it the same in your country?

- 5) Work with students to write their typical work schedule on the calendar. Have them add in any classes or special appointments.
- 6) Review briefly by asking students to refer to their calendars to answer the following kinds of questions: What are you doing June (or whatever month you are using) 23rd? Can you schedule a dentist appointment for June 16th in the morning? Can we schedule an extra class at 4pm on June 30th?

10 Minutes

VI. Assessment:

Give students a hypothetical schedule to map out on their calendars. Use the schedule below or create your own (but choose one that is different from the schedule they have already worked with in this lesson). Use as much English as is comfortable, but remember that this is primarily an assessment of calendar skills, not of language acquisition. The new vocabulary from this lesson can be reinforced in a subsequent lesson, and then assessed.

As you give students each piece of information, ask them to write it on their calendars:

- 1) You work Monday to Thursday, from 4am to 4pm.
- 2) You work Saturdays and Sundays from 4pm to midnight.
- 3) Fridays are your day off.

Assessment questions:

- 1) You have a new English teacher who wants to schedule a 2 hour class for Sunday at 3pm. Does that time work for you?
- 2) What are 2 different dates and times when you could schedule a doctor’s appointment?
- 3) When would it be best to do your grocery shopping?

1	2	3	4
Student is unable to do task.	Student is able to create schedule based on information given with prompts from teacher.	Student is able to successfully create schedule without assistance and answer questions with minimal assistance.	Student is able to successfully create schedule and answer all questions without assistance.

Enhanced Curriculum Possibilities:

* Use additional classes to reinforce and build on the vocabulary learned in this initial lesson (see “Additional Vocabulary”). You could continue to work with a calendar as a tool for building vocabulary until the instructions and questions from the assessment could be given entirely in English.

* Help students learn how to use their calendars to not only track, but also calculate weekly hours worked and check against their paychecks. Depending on student levels, this lesson could involve teaching basic arithmetic.

Days of the Week – Días de la Semana

domingo	Friday
lunes	Wednesday
martes	Monday
miércoles	Saturday
jueves	Sunday
viernes	Tuesday
sábado	Thursday

Months – Meses

febrero	April
marzo	June
agosto	January
mayo	October
abril	September
enero	May
noviembre	February
junio	December
septiembre	March
diciembre	July
octubre	August
julio	November