

K-3: In addition to practicing my classroom expectations, we have been working on family words and completed the Baby Shark Challenge. I'll be compiling the video soon, keep an eye out!

4-5: We've been singing about the Spanish-speaking countries of the world, and have started talking about how to describe people using our favorite Super Heroes. They have loved talking about who is more tall, Iron Man or Nick Fury.

6-8: We spent the first couple of classes at the beginning of the year talking about how we acquire language, rather than just learning *about* language. Since my goal is to get kids to communicate, I need to give them as much interesting comprehensible input as I possibly can. Across all the middle school grades, we developed the list of the most important things I need to look for when we are in class together, the criteria I will use to grade their daily Communication Score. We decided I will be looking for: how they **sit** (Are they engaged and enthusiastic? Focused on class?), how they **communicate** (Are they speaking in Spanish? The **whole** time? If they don't know how to say something, are they using gestures or drawing? Are they letting me know when they don't understand?), and how they **participate** (Are they having 1 conversation? Are they zoned in and following directions?) If they are doing these things 80-100% of class, they will get 5/5. Between 40-80% of class and they will get 4/5 points. Below 40% of class, they will receive 3 points. (If they are absent, this is not a score they need to make up.) Now that we have those expectations established, we are preparing to read *Brandon Brown versus Yucutan*, and have spent the first couple of classes talking about where students **want to go** and **what they want to see** when they get there.