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kids love spanish

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## Foreign Languages

**Kids Love Spanish** (Series). 7 DVDs. approx. 30 min. ea. Prod. by Brock Sisters Prods. Dist. by **Kids Love Spanish**. 2006, 2007 release. ISBN 0-978575-7-6. \$99 ser., \$17.99 ea. Includes: **Kids Love Spanish, Vol. 1: Basic Words** (ISBN 0-978-5757-0-9); **Kids Love Spanish, Vol. 2: Alphabet & Numbers** (ISBN 0-978-5757-1-7); **Kids Love Spanish, Vol. 3: Family** (ISBN 0-978-5757-2-5); **Kids Love Spanish, Vol. 4: Food** (ISBN 0-978-5757-3-3); **Kids Love Spanish, Vol. 5: Colors & Shapes** (ISBN 0-978-5757-4-1); **Kids Love Spanish, Vol. 6: Animals** (ISBN 0-978-5757-5-X); **Kids Love Spanish, Vol. 7: Basic Phrases** (ISBN 0-978-5757-6-8).

**PreS-Gr 2**-If repetition aids learning, this almost unbearably upbeat series of DVDs will do the trick. Two sisters, along with their children, spouses, extended family, friends, and friends' children teach beginning Spanish vocabulary to young children. *Basic Words* presents 18 terms that are continuously repeated. The word is pronounced first by the sisters, and then by a plethora of multiethnic children, some shown in realistic settings, some against cartoon backgrounds. A sombrero crowned cartoon cactus also pronounces the words. The use of young children communicates a strong message that anyone can learn Spanish, but it also leads to a great variation in pronunciation, especially in the case of the rolling double "r" and the soft "d." This persists throughout the series. The adult pronunciation is generally flawless. Words previously introduced appear in the context of words introduced later. There is an opening and closing song, featuring the sisters against a cartoon background that is reminiscent *Blues Clues*. The quickly moving bright images and use of familiar tunes ("Twinkle, Twinkle," "Eensy Weensy Spider") boost child appeal. Each volume follows the same format. While this series seems targeted for home use by parents, it could easily be incorporated into primary classrooms. Slightly more desirable for ELL settings is the "Osmosis" series of DVDs, which uses cartoon graphics, photographs, and a clean white background to excellent effect as they present basic Spanish and English words. However, for home and educational use **Kids Love Spanish** provides a sound starting point. -Ann Welton, Helen B. Stafford Elementary School, Tacoma, WA