

EXPLORE SPEECH & LANGUAGE AT...

The Smithsonian Folklife Festival

June 24-28 and July 1-5 on the National Mall



Your kids will love this year's featured country for the Smithsonian Folklife Festival - Peru! Practice speech and language skills while exploring Peruvian food, crafts, music, and traditions.

TALKING

EXPLORE: Sequencing Steps
ENRICH: Narrative Abilities
ENGAGE: The ability to retell task steps in order



PARENT PROMPT:

- Artisans at the festival will be demonstrating traditional Peruvian crafts such as weaving, gourd carving, and ceramics. Pick a demonstration and help your child learn how the artisan creates the craft by watching the artisan and reading the plaques.
- After learning about the craft, ask your child to tell you the steps in the creation process. Remind him/her to:
 - Use complete sentences
 - Use sequential vocabulary: first, next, then, last
 - Tell at least three steps



WORD PLAY

EXPLORE: Multisyllabic Words
ENRICH: Phonemic Skills
ENGAGE: Increase awareness and production of syllables in words.



PARENT PROMPT:

- Smithsonian Folklife Festival is a title full of 2-4 syllable words - as you explore the festival, have your child make a list of other multisyllabic words he/she encounters. For example,
- At the end of the day ask your child to pronounce each word slowly, clapping or holding up a finger for each syllable to help him/her remember to say each part of the word. Challenge your child to say each word:
 - In isolation
 - In a phrase
 - In a complete sentence



LISTENING

EXPLORE: Understanding Wh- Questions
ENRICH: Oral Comprehension of Grammatical Forms
ENGAGE: The ability to understand & respond to who/what/where questions



PARENT PROMPT:

- At the Wawawasi Kids Corner, kids can attend educational workshops on Peruvian history, dance, language, food, and storytelling. Pick one of the workshops to attend with your child. Remind him/her to use active listening skills: eyes are watching, ears are listening, lips are closed, hands and feet are still.
- After the workshop, ask your child to answer comprehension questions about what he/she learned:
 - What . . . (e.g. What languages do they speak in Peru?)
 - Who . . . (e.g. Who learns traditional Peruvian dances?)
 - Where . . . (e.g. Where is the capital of Peru?)



SOCIAL LANGUAGE SKILLS

EXPLORE: Giving Compliments
ENRICH: Polite Social Interactions
ENGAGE: The ability to compliment someone on their craft



PARENT PROMPT:

- After a day of exploring the festival, ask your child what he/she enjoyed watching or learning about the most. Then, ask your child to think of a compliment he/she can give to the presenter or artisan. Depending on your child's language level, the compliment can be simple or more detailed. For example, to a weaver, "This rug is pretty," or "I like the color you used in this rug."
- Remind your child to use polite social conventions while giving the compliment:
 - Make eye contact
 - Use an appropriate volume
 - Use a complete sentence

