

A joint project of the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG) and the Goethe-Institut, supported by the German Federal Foreign Office.

The American Association of Teachers of German supports the teaching of the German language and German-speaking cultures in the U.S. The AATG promotes the study of the German-speaking world in all its linguistic, cultural and ethnic diversity, and endeavors to prepare students as transnational, transcultural learners and active, multilingual participants in a globalized world.



The Goethe-Institut is the cultural institute of the Federal Republic of Germany with a global reach. With 157 institutes in 98 countries, it promotes knowledge of German abroad, encourages international cultural exchange and conveys an image of contemporary Germany. The work of the Goethe-Institut is supported by Germany's Foreign Office and is carried out independently without any political party affiliations.



Structured Program for the Acquisition of German in the U.S. - Resources and Know-How

What is SPARK for German?

SPARK for German provides professional development for future German teachers and enables students across the United States to start learning German at an early age.

SPARK offers a playful approach to German lessons in after school programs—providing early access to language instruction and creating opportunities for students to learn German into advanced levels. SPARK's long-term goal is to increase demand and build capacity to integrate German into the regular curriculum in immersion, elementary, middle, and high school programs.

How does SPARK work?

Colleges, universities, and local high school German programs work with the AATG and the Goethe-Institut to provide training for German majors and future German teachers to become SPARK instructors. SPARK instructors will teach German to young learners in after school programs. Where possible, SPARK instructors will be granted appropriate credits by their home institutions.

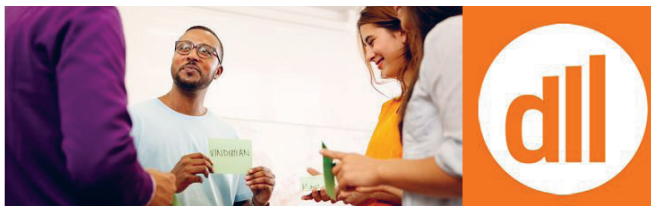


What does SPARK offer?

- Ready-to-use, flexible, and age-appropriate teaching units and materials designed for use with elementary and middle school students



- Professional development opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students interested in pursuing a German teaching career



- Access to the Goethe-Institut's Deutsch Lehren Lernen online courses where aspiring teachers use their advanced German language skills to learn strategies for engaging young learners in German language lessons
- Certificates of completion for successful instructors and participants
- Comprehensive program support from professional coordinators and the SPARK team.

Find out more!

Visit us at sparkforgerman.org to find out more about our program and to connect with a SPARK Lab near you.



Who benefits?

- **Young learners** in SPARK after school programs get to know Germany and cultures of the German-speaking world.
- **Families** access quality after school programming that teaches students a new language and fosters intercultural competence.
- **High school and college students** strengthen their own German language proficiency, gain valuable work experience, and share what they have learned.
- **Participating faculty** have access to high quality materials and professional development opportunities and join the nationwide SPARK network of German instructors, curriculum developers, and trainers.
- **Local German programs** benefit from quality instruction and more highly qualified teachers in the future. German instruction in after school programs connects communities to global cultures.