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## INTRODUCTION

Language is the very foundation on which we rely to interact and communicating with others about our needs and thoughts. Babies are ready to communicate from the moment they are born into this world. They observe and listen to people and objects in their surroundings, and respond appropriately to what they hear and see. Their cries and gestures with subtle nuances often convey different needs. This innate ability to communicate verbally and non-verbally is the starting point from which language is developed. A child's language development capabilities are greatly influenced by being in a positive environment rich with words, rhythm, sounds, etc.

However, even with the abundance of tuition centers around us, there are still many children who are unable to speak Mandarin fluently with proper vocabulary, which is vital in learning as well as making friends. The difficulties faced by children who experienced language delay will only exacerbate as they grow older, especially in reading and speaking. Seimpi's Chinese Speech and Drama program is designed to give your children the right support from their earliest days so they can achieve their maximum potential. We base our curriculum on the MOE curriculum. With our unique MIM teaching approaches, we strive to bring to our students a lifelong interest in the Chinese Language and Drama, assisting children to achieve a mastery level in the overall language skills.

## MIM® Chinese Speech and Drama for Toddlers

Course Details:

Age Group : 2 years old

Duration of Course : up to 1 year(toddlers will be promoted to Nursery

level when they turn 3 years old)

Lesson Duration : 45 mins, once a week

Students per class : 10

2 years old is an age where linguistic development is at its peak. Although some may not know how to speak clearly or may not be able to string a sentence when they speak, they can absorb sound and nuances by listening and imitating quite instantly. With this awareness in mind, we have carefully design **speaking and drama activities** that are age appropriate, using **pin-yin**, **visual aids**, **stories**, **mimes and play** to assist toddlers in acquiring good habits in speaking. It helps to improve pronunciation, vocabulary and to avoid the usual mistakes that some children make when speaking Mandarin. Pin-yin will be emphasized during speech delivery sessions in context to ensure they know how to express themselves with clarity. This will help them to understand the importance of Pin-yin through cultivating their ability to hear and manipulate the sound of the language. Apart from the more direct output of this course, toddlers also learn to express themselves, behaving appropriately in different social settings and develop an interest for the love of Chinese drama. Our trainers are qualified Chinese speech and drama teachers who understand the development of children of preschool ages.

MIM® Chinese Speech and Drama for Nursery

**Course Details:** 

Age Group : 3 - 4 years old

Duration of Course : 1 year

Lesson Duration : 60 mins, once a week

Students per class : 10

The nursery program is made up of 5 major components. The first is music and movement; the children will learn the language through singing and dancing. The second is physical exercises, including mime, to develop the children's fine motor skills. The third is reading aloud, which will enhance the children's hearing skills. The fourth is role-playing activities, which will develop the children's creative and imaginative vision. The fifth includes constructive drama games, which will expand the children's social skills, turning them into more confident individuals.

The program will expose the children to a myriad of stories and songs. Through listening and reading the designated materials, the children will develop awareness for Chinese words, phrasing and sentences from basic to advanced stage. Our teacher will ensure that the children thoroughly understand the content of the materials and that they can enunciate and pronounce each word properly. We will also provide lists of recommended reading materials, which emphasize the association of words and visuals, to guide the children on a structured path to attain high literacy development.

## MIM® Chinese Speech and Drama for Kinder

**Course Details:** 

Age Group : 5 - 6 years old

**Duration of Course** : 1 year

Lesson Duration : 60 mins, once a week

Students per class : 10

Kindergarten is an important phase as research have shown that literacy skills cultivated in this period is closely linked to academic success when the children start schooling. Children who arrive in primary school with more literacy knowledge are able to learn and absorb at a much faster pace.

MIM® Chinese Speech and Drama for Kinder provides various dramatic and improvisation activities to strengthen the child's communication skills, boost confidence in public speaking, build self-esteem, learn leadership skills, to make them more assertive and adaptive, and build up their social skills simultaneously.

The kinder program is made up of 5 major components. The first is speech delivery, through which the children will learn to give a scripted short speech in front of the classroom with clarity. The second is group discussion, in which students will be given chances to voice their opinion in a group setting. The third are poems and rhymes, which the children will memorise and perform to the class. The fourth is improvisation exercise, used to develop the children's creativity and imagination. The fifth, group drama activities, will improve the children's ability to work in team.

Through speaking under the guidance of the teacher in class, the children will be prepared to describe observations with suitable vocabulary and hold conversations on various daily activities. They will engage in group activities so they can interact and practice with peers what they learn in class. Dramatic activities such as improvisation based on given scenarios will also be part of the course to expand their imagination and expressivity. These activities are also meant to help the children develop the ability to communicate the occurrences around them effectively in correct phrasing and sentences with appropriate vocabulary.

## MIM® Chinese Speech and Drama for Primary

**Course Details:** 

Age Group : 7 - 12 years old

Duration of Course : 1 year for each grade Lesson Duration : 60 mins, once a week

Students per class : 10

With the emphasis turning to acquiring good speaking and presentation skills among our children, there is an increasing demand for a speech and drama course that emphasize on developing good command in Mandarin speaking, laying a solid groundwork by engaging children in interesting drama games and activities. MIM® Chinese Speech and Drama course for Primary school children is specially written to develop the skills not only in speaking and presentation skills, but it also encourages our children to appreciate drama as an art form.

Drama presents a vital and immediate way of explaining and describing how our society works. The learning not only includes the acquisition of information which increases the students' general knowledge, it also raises awareness of how the Chinese language should be used. Children learn how to maintain a good stature, behaving and speaking in appropriate tones, using the right inflections in different occasions and social situations. Its curriculum is based on the syllabus of the Chinese Language set by the Ministry of Education, Singapore.



