

## Mandarin in America



Ed and Qunling

Sunday afternoon May 15 Qunling Zhang showed me her school and classroom. (No one else was present because it was Sunday.) She has been teaching Mandarin there to 5<sup>th</sup> grade students for this past school year while living with a host family that we knew. The Global Village



Academy is a “charter school”, a privately operated school within the public school system. The school teaches classes in the Chinese, Spanish, and Russian languages, with some English studies as well. Qunling works there under the Confucius Institute program and returned to her family in Anhui Province in early June. While the younger grades have one or two large classrooms, her room is small because of fewer students at that age. During parts of the day the room is occupied by Russian students instead of Chinese. [Http://www.gvaschools.org](http://www.gvaschools.org) has several campuses in Colorado.



Times in China, Spain, Russia.



Spanish Village hallway



Qunling and her room entrance.



Student artwork



The Chinese side of Qunling's classroom.



Another wall of her classroom

It appears that there is an increasing need for teaching Mandarin language in American schools.



- Paid Advertisement -

# Global Village International Preschools and Early Childhood Centers bring second language learning to all children, every day



Global Village International Preschools & Early Childhood Centers are located in Arvada, Aurora, Colorado Springs, Fort Collins, Lafayette, Lakewood, and Parker. Castle Rock is slated to open August 2016. The preschools, which are currently offering two weeks free tuition to new students, provide year round instruction for 12 months to 5 year olds through immersion in Mandarin

Chinese and Spanish. The internationally acclaimed High Scope curriculum provides a quality framework for preschool learning and kindergarten readiness. Toddler rooms are open in Arvada and Lafayette.

Learning a second language, when young, enables the language learning part of the brain to mature and then to facilitate other language learning throughout life.

Research shows that all students benefit from learning a second language. One summary citing 60 studies concluded that second language study:

- Benefits overall academic progress
- Narrows achievement gaps
- Benefits basic skills development
- Benefits higher order, abstract, and creative thinking
- Enhances a student's sense of achievement
- Helps students score higher on stan-

- dardized tests
- Promotes cultural awareness and understanding
- Improves chances of college acceptance, achievement, and attainment

- Enhances career opportunities
- Visit [www.gvipreschools.org](http://www.gvipreschools.org) to learn more about our program and receive 2 weeks free.

## Arvada and Lakewood Preschools to host Open Houses in July

On Saturday, July 30th, the Global Village International Preschool and Early Childhood Center in Lakewood will be hosting an open house from 9:00-1:00 PM. Meet the center Director Andrea Pizano and tour the newly renovated preschool. Children will enjoy a bouncy house, piñata, fun activities and refreshments. GVIP Lakewood is located at 1139 S Alkire Street in Lakewood. Please call 303-986-2410 with any questions or to RSVP for their Open House.

GVIP Arvada is also hosting two open houses. The July open house will be held Saturday, July 23rd and a second open

house will be held Saturday, August 6th. The hours are 9:00-1:00 PM for each. Parents, who have questions about how a language immersion preschool operates, will have the chance to speak to Director Wendy Brewer and her staff. The center is located at 8020 Lee Dr in Arvada. To RSVP, please call 303-422-1035.

Children attending the GVIP centers learn Spanish and Mandarin as well as being taught in English using the highly acclaimed High Scope curriculum. You can also visit [www.gvipreschools.org](http://www.gvipreschools.org) to learn more.

## Internationally acclaimed HighScope® Curriculum taught at GVI Preschools and Early Childhood Centers



What is HighScope® Curriculum? Informed by research (e.g., The Perry Study, etc.), the HighScope® curriculum, which has been evolving since 1970, is comprised of eight core areas.

1. Approaches to Learning: Young chil-

children contribute to their readiness for school and their ability to meet a variety of challenges. The components in this area are self.

3. Physical Development and Health: Preschoolers are physically active. Our teachers use children's physical actions

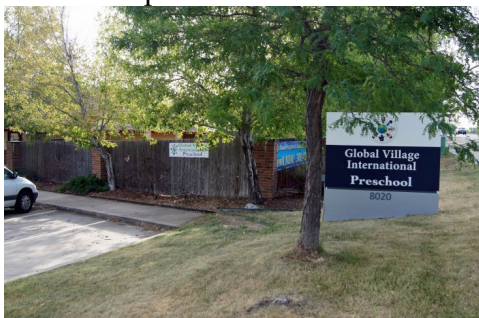
mathematics. They can sort and match things; arrange things in simple patterns; and understand the meaning of words and phrases like "more," "less," "a lot," and "the same as." Children acquire math skills and concepts through exploration and teacher-directed instruction.

6. Creative Arts: Art, Music, Movement, and Pretend Play experiences contribute to children's artistic and creative development. Through making and appreciating art; through music (e.g., exploring and identifying sounds, exploring the singing voice, developing melody, singing songs, and playing simple instruments); through movement as young children build capacity and an awareness of the body's potential to move; and through pretend play, children develop creativity.

7. Science and Technology: As young children explore their world, they use science in many different ways. Our teachers support this exploration by providing hands-on materials, multi-sensory experiences, tools, and technology to support children's discoveries and help them develop the skills associated with scientific thinking.

8. Social Studies: Age-appropriate social studies experiences start with children's own lives and help them relate new learning to what is familiar. After their family, the classroom is the first society that young children belong to. For them, early social studies learning grows from their interactions with the people and materials in the preschool setting.

This the top half of a full newspaper page paid advertizement in the Arvada Press issue of last week. These two pre-schools are some of several here in Colorado and are affiliated with Global Village Academy. The web site is <http://www.gvipreschools.org>. The bottom of that page follows. Today, 18 July, I visited the Arvada school, took some photos and obtained the director's card.



The classroom photo of the Chinese room shows no children because the school is in immediate need of a teacher for the Mandarin language.



comprised of eight core areas.

1. Approaches to Learning: Young children approach learning in different ways, each bringing a unique set of attitudes, habits, and preferences. Our teachers foster children's creativity, curiosity, confidence, independence, initiative, and persistence as they carry out their intentions, solve problems, and engage in a variety of learning experiences.

2. Social & Emotional Development: Our warm and nurturing environment helps children form trusting relationships and become engaged and motivated learners. The social skills children develop

Preschoolers are physically active. Our teachers use children's physical actions as a gateway to learning in all areas of the curriculum.

4. Language, Literacy & Communication: The curriculum provides meaningful English language and literacy experiences for children during every part of the day through a balanced focus on speaking, listening, reading, and writing because these skills develop concurrently (together) rather than sequentially (one after the other).

5. Mathematics: As young children explore their environment, they are noticing relationships that are the foundation for

## Preschool is the best time to start acquiring a second language

We believe that early childhood education must embody a whole-child focus. This is done best by a blend of child-initiated and teacher-guided learning experiences. At Global Village International Preschool, our program utilizes a range of learning experiences and activities that keep children engaged, motivated, supported, and challenged. Each preschooler learns either Spanish or Mandarin Chinese in addition to the core curriculum in English.

The children who attend Global Village

International Preschool & Early Childhood Center are taught through language immersion. Immersion is the method by which we all learn our native language. As infants we are surrounded by people speaking a specific language, as we are surrounded by the air we breathe, and we learn our first language rapidly and with ease. Immersion education in a second language takes the same approach as children use their natural ability to learn that language.



## Two FREE Weeks of GVI Preschool or Early Childhood Care

### Our Kids Learn Spanish or Mandarin... Yours can too!

- 6:30 am to 6 pm
- Children learn Spanish or Mandarin through Immersion

- HighScope Curriculum
- GVI is Nonprofit, Year-Round and Comprehensive

### Lakewood

Now Enrolling Children 2.5 to 5 years of age.  
All children must be potty trained

**Lakewood 1139 S Alkire Street**  
**303.986-2410**

### Arvada

Now Enrolling Children 12 months to 5 years of age.

**Arvada 8020 Lee Dr,**  
**303.422.1035**



**www.gvipreschools.org**

Hurry. Offer expires 9/30/16. Not available for CCAP families or with any other offer.

## A day at Global Village International Preschool and Early Childhood Center

GVIP offers 2, 3, & 5 full-day year-round educational programs in which children are enrolled in a Mandarin Chinese or Spanish classroom where instruction in World Language & Culture is part of the core academic program. Our centers are open from 6:30 am to 6:00 pm, Monday through Friday. The school day is from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. From 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm children play with each other and explore learning centers.

- Components of the daily routine include:
- Early Arrival: Children who arrive before breakfast have an opportunity to explore learning centers that interest them.
  - Breakfast: Nutritious food helps chil-

dren start the day well.

- Message Board: This large group gathering is a time for special announcements and to let children know what will be happening during the day.
- Plan-Work-Recall: During this child-initiated activity, children plan what they want to do. They then go to learning centers of their choice to work on what they planned. After cleaning up, they share what they did with each other. Throughout work-time, teachers encourage and support children to help them implement their plan.
- World Language & Culture: Through

art, storytelling, cultural activities, and direct instruction in a second language, children learn the target language (Mandarin Chinese or Spanish).

- Outside Time: Children engage in active physical play as they interact with each other and adults.
- Lunch: A family-style lunch with teachers and visiting parents participating in this important social time.
- Rest Time: A time for children to sleep or rest.
- Afternoon Snack: A family-style snack is a transition time from rest to other activities.

- Small Group Time: Small Group Time is a learning activity that is teacher-directed that focuses on one or more curriculum areas.
- Voices: This character development program uses guided reading featuring multicultural literature.

Your child can try a Free Day at GVI Preschool and Early Childhood Center. Please call GVIP Lakewood at 303-986-2410 or GVIP Arvada at 303-422-1035 to arrange. You can also visit [www.gvipreschools.org](http://www.gvipreschools.org) for more information.

### Global Village International Preschool



where each child learns a second language through immersion.

**Wenda Brewer**  
Preschool Director

8020 Lee Dr, Arvada, CO 80005  
303-422-1035

[wbrewer@Gvipreschools.org](mailto:wbrewer@Gvipreschools.org)  
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DENVER LANGUAGE SCHOOL

www.DenverLanguageSchool.org

This is the card for a different school, Denver Language School, which has two campuses: in Aurora and in Denver. They also teach Mandarin to elementary students. I visited this school at the end of February but did not take photos. On March 1 I wrote about my visit to a friend in China, saying:

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Last Friday I happened to be driving by the West Campus of the Denver Language School ([www.DenverLanguageSchool.org](http://www.DenverLanguageSchool.org)) that I previously mentioned to you. So I stopped in to see the place. It is on the third floor of the building and presently has classes up to 2nd grade. The East Campus has older students. I met with the assistant principal (headmaster) and got a tour of the facilities, looking into the classrooms that had both children and teachers in them.

The classrooms seem much nicer than I saw in China, and there are fewer students in a classroom. Mandarin is taught by immersion, meaning that only Mandarin is spoken in the classroom. I was given the business card for Gwen Qin, the director of the Chinese program. Her contact information is on the attached card images.

I was told that right now is the time that you need to make yourself known to Gwen. That is because they are in the process of asking their present teachers if they want to continue teaching there. There could be some openings if those teachers want to move on to another job.

The West Campus school is located on University Boulevard. To the south a couple kilometers is the University of Denver, where I have been teaching. (I am retiring from there in a couple of weeks.) Farther south and on a side street is Hillcrest Christian Church (<http://www.hillcrestdenver.org/>) which has a very large number of Chinese. I have been there several times, and it is a good group.

There is a regular city bus route (24) along University Boulevard.

So you should contact Gwen Qin soon to start a discussion about possibly teaching there.

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A few years ago I took a series of Sunday afternoon classes to learn a little of the Mandarin language myself. I was the worst student, but under an excellent teacher, because I was too busy with other things to have the time to study properly and start to use the language. My classes were by <http://www.greatwallchineseacademy.org>.

These examples of the need for teachers of the Chinese Mandarin language are just for a part of Colorado. Presumably many other parts of America have a similar need. There may be several programs whereby teachers from China can come to America to teach Mandarin for a year or more. This note is just to confirm some in my area of Colorado.

Dr. Ed Holroyd, 18 July 2016