RUSSIAN · GRADE 3 · AGES 8–9

Grade 3 Russian

Parent guides. A step-by-step script for every lesson, with materials, what to read aloud and a checklist.

First edition **5 units** **10 lessons · one quarter** **Cyrillic with stress marks**

A song or video for every lesson **Quick reference**

FIRST EDITION

Course guide

Grade 3 Russian is a short course of 10 lessons (5 units of 2), one lesson a week for a quarter, with three sessions of 20–30 minutes a week.

The student learns when to say вы and ты, greets and introduces himself or herself, counts to twenty and reads sums aloud, and learns that Russian nouns are masculine, feminine or neuter, so color and size words change their endings to match.

Then the student talks about meals with я ем and я пью, asks politely at the table with пожа́луйста, and names birds and the signs of spring. Every Russian word is printed in Cyrillic with a stress mark; the vocabulary cards in Unit 1 also show it in Latin letters.

> Every embedded video comes from a channel approved for School Launch: RussianPod101 (short lessons by native Russian teachers: the alphabet, vocabulary, grammar and conversations), Rock ’N Learn (Learn Russian for Kids, used one section at a time), and a few videos from museums and other official institutions, each one logged. The videos play in YouTube’s privacy-enhanced player. RussianPod101 videos usually begin or end with an invitation to visit its website; you can skip that part. Please preview every video yourself before you show it to your child. The videos were chosen by title and channel from channels approved for School Launch and checked one by one, and YouTube may show its own suggestions

> when a video ends, so stay nearby and stop the player when the lesson's part is done.

Start with Lesson 1.1 →

Who it is for

Written for students in grade 3 (about ages 8–9) who read independently. No earlier Russian is needed: the course reviews the letters and sounds and builds from there, though a student who has done earlier grades will feel at home. A parent or teacher reads along, joins the speaking practice and checks the practice answers with the key. Nothing needs to be bought: every activity uses paper, index cards, pencil and household things. Families who speak Russian at home use the same lessons with the *At home in Russian* notes.

How to use this course

1. **The weekly rhythm.** The quarter has 10 lessons, one a week, each with three sessions of 20–30 minutes. Session 1 is the warm-up, the video, the teaching and the picture study (in the first lesson of each unit). Session 2 is the activity and the Russian notebook. Session 3 is the worked examples, the practice and a recitation: the student says the week's Russian out loud to the family. In the second week of each unit, use part of Session 3 for the unit review and the unit challenge.
2. **Say it every day.** Russian is learned out loud, a few minutes a day. Open every session by saying the sentences and endings learned so far, with the stress in the right place. Five minutes of cheerful speaking beats an hour of silent staring.
3. **Story, then how Russian works, then doing.** The core ideas are written to be read aloud or read by the student. *The story* tells what happened; *How Russian works* explains the pattern; *Say it out loud* gives the sounds. After each paragraph, ask the student to tell it back.
4. **Handwriting.** Russians write by hand in a joined cursive whose letters can look quite different from print (the cursive т looks like an m, and the cursive д like a g). This course asks for neat printed Cyrillic; the cursive is shown for recognition only, and a student who wants to learn it can copy it from a Russian copybook (про́пись).

5. **Flashcards.** Every lesson adds new words. Make a flashcard for each one: the Russian word with its stress mark on the front, the meaning (and, for nouns, the gender) on the back. Many families color-code nouns: blue for masculine, red for feminine, green for neuter.
6. **Unit review and unit challenge.** Each unit ends with a short review (25 points), which may be done orally, and a unit challenge. Keep the challenge work in a folder.
7. **Cyrillic from the first day.** Russian is written in the Cyrillic alphabet, named for Saint Cyril, the Greek missionary who, with his brother Methodius, first wrote down the Slavic language so that the Slavs could read the Gospel. Some letters look and sound like ours (А, К, М, О, Т), some look like ours but sound different (В is v, Н is n, Р is r, С is s), and some are new (Б, Д, Ж, Ш, Я…). The course teaches the letters a few at a time and never asks the child to read Russian in Latin letters for long.
8. **Stress marks.** Every Russian word of more than one syllable is printed with a mark over its stressed vowel (ма́ма, молоко́). Say that syllable loudest. Russian books for adults leave the mark out, but readers for children and learners print it, and so does this course. Latin-letter transliteration is shown on the vocabulary cards in Unit 1 only; after that, each card keeps its English sound guide.
9. **The word list.** The quarter teaches 61 words and phrases, in this order. Unit 1: здра́вствуйте, приве́т, вы, ты, как дела́?, хорошо́, меня́ зову́т, как вас зову́т?, о́чень прия́тно, я из Аме́рики, отку́да. Unit 2: ноль, оди́н, два, три, четы́ре, пять, де́сять, ско́лько?, оди́ннадцать, двена́дцать, пятна́дцать, два́дцать, плюс, ми́нус, бу́дет. Unit 3: голубо́й, ро́зовый, кори́чневый, се́рый, фиоле́товый, кра́сная, круг, квадра́т, треуго́льник, се́рдце, большо́й, ма́ленький. Unit 4: за́втрак, обе́д, у́жин, я ем, я пью, ло́жка, ви́лка, нож, таре́лка, ча́шка, переда́йте, пожа́луйста. Unit 5: пти́ца, грач, воробе́й, ла́сточка, сова́, гнездо́, весна́, прилете́ли, поёт, пою́т, цветы́.
10. **Word games.** The crossword, word-find and hangman games used in other School Launch language courses are typed in Latin letters; Russian needs a Cyrillic keyboard mode, which the shared games do not have yet, so the games are turned off for Russian. Each lesson has a spoken game instead.
11. **Printables.** Each lesson has a one-page worksheet, and the answers are in a separate key for the parent. Each unit review also has a printable key.

12. **The Russian Bible.** Russian verses are quoted from the Synodal translation (Синода́льный перево́д), the Russian Bible authorized in 1876 after more than fifty years of work begun by the Russian Bible Society in 1813; it is still the Bible of most Russian-speaking churches, Orthodox and Protestant alike, and it is in the public domain. Verses are printed as in the 1876 text (with e where modern print may use ё, and without stress marks), with a dash for the spaced hyphen. Where the King James prints the LORD, the Synodal has Госпо́дь. The Psalms are numbered as in the Greek Old Testament, usually one lower than in the King James (Psalm 23 is Psalm 22 in a Russian Bible), so the lesson always gives the King James reference. The English verse is always the King James Version, quoted exactly.

Scope and sequence

UNIT 1 · WEEKS 1–2

Здра́вствуйте! Meeting People

Greeting people the polite way and the friendly way (вы and ты), asking Как дела́?, and introducing yourself with Меня́ зову́т…, О́чень прия́тно and Я из Аме́рики, with Viktor Vasnetsov's Snow Maiden.

1.1 Здра́вствуйте и приве́т: Вы and Ты

1.2 Меня́ зову́т…: Introducing Yourself

UNIT 2 · WEEKS 3–4

Чи́сла: Numbers to 20

Counting from zero to twenty in Russian, asking Ско́лько? (how many?), and doing simple sums out loud with плюс, ми́нус and бу́дет, with Bogdanov-Belsky's village children working a hard problem at the blackboard.

2.1 Ноль, оди́н, два… де́сять

2.2 Оди́ннадцать… два́дцать: Sums Out Loud

UNIT 3 · WEEKS 5–6

Цвета́ и фо́рмы: Colors and Shapes

More colors, and how Russian colors change to match the word they describe (кра́сный шар, кра́сная ша́пка, кра́сное я́блоко), and the shapes круг, квадра́т, треуго́льник, звезда́ and се́рдце, with Boris Kustodiev's bright Shrovetide fair in the snow.

3.1 Кра́сный, кра́сная, кра́сное: Colors That Match

3.2 Круг, квадра́т, треуго́льник: Shapes

UNIT 4 · WEEKS 7–8

Семья́ за столо́м: The Family Table

Meals and the table in Russian: за́втрак, обе́д, у́жин, я ем and я пью, and the things on the table (ло́жка, ви́лка, нож, таре́лка, ча́шка) with polite requests, with Vladimir Makovsky's old couple at tea by the samovar.

4.1 За́втрак, обе́д, у́жин: Я ем, я пью

4.2 Переда́йте, пожа́луйста…: At the Table

UNIT 5 · WEEKS 9–10

Пти́цы: Birds and Spring

Birds in Russian (пти́ца, грач, воробе́й, ла́сточка, сова́, гнездо́) and the coming of spring (весна́, прилете́ли, пою́т), with Alexei Savrasov's The Rooks Have Returned, the best-loved spring painting in Russia.

5.1 Грач, воробе́й, ла́сточка, сова́

5.2 Весна́: The Birds Have Come Back

Weekly pacing calendar

WEEK	PLAN
1	• Session 1: Lesson 1.1 Здра́вствуйте и приве́т: Вы and Ты: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 1.1 video, speaking practice, Russian notebook and activity (greeting role cards) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet *Three sessions a week of 20–30 minutes. On the other days, say the week's words and verse aloud for five minutes and copy two words in Cyrillic with their stress marks.*

WEEK	PLAN
2	• Session 1: Lesson 1.2 Меня́ зову́т…: Introducing Yourself: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 1.2 video, speaking practice, Russian notebook and activity (my name badge and passport) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet • End of unit: Unit 1 review and unit challenge (a first conversation)
3	• Session 1: Lesson 2.1 Ноль, оди́н, два… де́сять: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 2.1 video, speaking practice, Russian notebook and activity (number hopscotch) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet
4	• Session 1: Lesson 2.2 Оди́ннадцать… два́дцать: Sums Out Loud: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 2.2 video, speaking practice, Russian notebook and activity (sum strips) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet • End of unit: Unit 2 review and unit challenge (russian number book)
5	• Session 1: Lesson 3.1 Кра́сный, кра́сная, кра́сное: Colors That Match: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 3.1 video, speaking practice, Russian notebook and activity (color-ending sorter) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet
6	• Session 1: Lesson 3.2 Круг, квадра́т, треуго́льник: Shapes: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 3.2 video, speaking practice, Russian notebook and activity (shape mosaic) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet • End of unit: Unit 3 review and unit challenge (shape-and-color picture)
7	• Session 1: Lesson 4.1 За́втрак, обе́д, у́жин: Я ем, я пью: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 4.1 video, speaking practice, Russian notebook and activity (my meal diary)

WEEK	PLAN
	• Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet
8	• Session 1: Lesson 4.2 Переда́йте, пожа́луйста…: At the Table: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 4.2 video, speaking practice, Russian notebook and activity (set a russian table) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet • End of unit: Unit 4 review and unit challenge (russian family meal)
9	• Session 1: Lesson 5.1 Грач, воробе́й, ла́сточка, сова́: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 5.1 video, speaking practice, Russian notebook and activity (paper nest) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet
10	• Session 1: Lesson 5.2 Весна́: The Birds Have Come Back: warm-up, core ideas, key terms and picture study • Session 2: Lesson 5.2 video, speaking practice, Russian notebook and activity (spring window) • Session 3: Worked examples, practice, the game and the worksheet • End of unit: Unit 5 review and unit challenge (bird watch journal)

Materials

Russian notebook (any notebook)

One for the quarter: vocabulary, letter and ending charts, translations and copywork.

Index cards and a box, bag or ring to keep them

For the flashcard deck that grows every lesson.

Pencil, colored pencils (blue, red and green for the three genders) and a fine-tip marker

For charts, maps and lettering.

Scissors, glue, tape and some poster board or taped printer paper

For the unit challenges.

Grading

Grades come mostly from the daily work: the recitations, the flashcard reviews, the notebook and the practice, because a language is learned by steady, honest repetition. A student who speaks Russian out loud faithfully, keeps a neat notebook and corrects his or her own practice earns full credit.

PART	%
Recitation and flashcards (daily speaking, vocabulary reviews, reading aloud)	**30**
Russian notebook (dated pages, charts, copywork)	**25**
Practice (corrected with the answer key)	**15**
Unit reviews	**15**
Unit challenges	**15**

Scale: A 90–100, B 80–89, C 70–79, D 60–69. Below 60: repeat the speaking drills and practice with help.

- A written answer is right when the letters and the ending are right. Stress marks are not required in the student's own writing, but the stress must be right when the answer is said aloud.
- Unit reviews may be done orally for a student who writes slowly; the parent writes down the answers.
- Pronunciation is graded on courage and consistency, not perfection. The rolled р, the soft consonants and the deep ы get steadier with every week.

A note to parents

You do not need to know Russian to teach this course. Every Russian word has its stress mark and an English sound guide, every practice question has its answer in the key, and the videos do the explaining a specialist would. Learn alongside your child, quiz each other with the flashcards, and let your child catch your mistakes.

Please preview every video yourself before you show it to your child. The videos were chosen by title and channel from channels approved for School Launch and checked one by one, and YouTube may show its own suggestions when a video ends, so stay nearby and stop the player when the lesson's part is done.

Why Russian? Because it is the most widely spoken language of Europe and the key to the other Slavic languages; because it is the language of Pushkin, Tolstoy and Dostoevsky, of Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff; and because millions of Russian-speaking Christians, Orthodox and Protestant, kept their faith through seventy years of persecution, and a Russian-speaking neighbor or church is never far away.

This is a course in the Russian language and in the history, art and faith of the Russian people, not in modern politics: it does not take up the governments of Russia, Ukraine or any other country today. Russian holidays are taught as facts about Russian life; where a custom comes from folk belief, the lesson says so plainly. The Christian story is told from Scripture, and the history of the Russian Church is told factually and respectfully.

UNIT 1

Здра́вствуйте! Meeting People

Lesson 1.1 teaches Здра́вствуйте! and Приве́т!, the difference between вы (polite) and ты (friendly), and Как дела́? Хорошо́, спаси́бо! with Vasnetsov's Snow Maiden in the winter forest.

Lesson 1.2 teaches how to introduce yourself and ask a name: Как вас зову́т?, Меня́ зову́т..., О́чень прия́тно and Я из Аме́рики.

PREREQUISITES

- None required. Students who did Grades K–2 Russian will know some of these words already; for them this unit is a quick review with more grammar.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can greet a grown-up with Здра́вствуйте! Приве́т!
- ☐ I know when to use вы and when to use ты.
- ☐ I can ask and answer Как дела́?
- ☐ I can introduce myself and ask someone's name politely.

OPTIONAL BOOKS AND RESOURCES FOR THIS UNIT

- **Wiktionary (Russian entries)**: Free online: every Russian word with its stress, meaning, endings and often a recording by a native speaker.
- **Forvo**: Free pronunciation library: hear any Russian word said by native speakers (link only).

Not required. Every activity in this unit works with paper, pencil, scissors and the free links below. School Launch is independent and free.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

1.1	**Здра́вствуйте и приве́т: Вы and Ты**	3 sessions of 20–30 minutes
1.2	**Меня́ зову́т…: Introducing Yourself**	3 sessions of 20–30 minutes

Unit 1 review

Ask each question out loud or on paper. The test is worth 20 points.

1. **4 pts**
   Greet your teacher and then a friend in Russian.

2. **4 pts**
   Do you say ты or вы to a grandmother you have just met? Why?

3. **4 pts**
   Someone asks Как дела́? Answer, and ask back.

4. **4 pts**
   Introduce yourself: your name and where you are from.

5. **4 pts**
   What does God say to His people in Isaiah 43:1?

ANSWER KEY

1. Здра́вствуйте! … Приве́т!
2. Вы: she is a grown-up you do not know well.
3. Хорошо́, спаси́бо! А у тебя́? (or А у вас?)
4. Меня́ зову́т … Я из Аме́рики.
5. I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: A FIRST CONVERSATION

Write and act out a short meeting between two people: a greeting, Как дела́?, names, О́чень прия́тно, where each is from, and goodbye. Perform it with a parent or sibling, once polite (вы) and once friendly (ты).

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Speaking	The student says at least six lines in Russian.
Accuracy	The student uses вы and ты correctly.
Product	The dialogue is written out in Cyrillic.
Effort	The student works carefully and joins in cheerfully.

UNIT 1 · ЗДРА́ВСТВУЙТЕ! MEETING PEOPLE · LESSON 1.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES

1.1 Здра́вствуйте и приве́т: Вы AND Ты

OBJECTIVES

- Greet grown-ups and friends correctly in Russian.
- Choose between вы and ты.
- Ask and answer Как дела́?

> **Warm-up.** How do you greet your pastor? How do you greet your best friend? English uses different words too (Good morning, sir! / Hey!). Russian has a polite way and a friendly way, and today you learn both.

WATCH

How to Greet Someone in Russian | Daily Russian Conversations #03

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 4:14

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LEcDcPojrh0

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; listen for Здра́вствуйте, Приве́т and Как дела́, and repeat each line.

Note: RussianPod101 Daily Russian Conversations: how to greet someone in Russian, with a short dialogue and the words on screen.

BACKUP VIDEO

10 Ways to Say Hello in Russian

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 4:06

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUkg3Ajj0wU

RussianPod101: ten ways to say hello in Russian, from До́брое у́тро to Как дела́?

KEY TERMS

Здра́вствуйте! (ZDRAHST-vooy-tee)
Hello! (polite, or to more than one person).

Приве́т! (pree-VYEHT)
Hi! (to a friend or family).

вы (vih)
You (polite, or more than one person).

ты (tih)
You (one friend, a child, family, God in prayer).

Как дела́? (kahk dee-LAH)
How are you? (literally “How are things?”).

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Russian is written in Cyrillic. The mark over a vowel (молоко́) shows the stressed syllable, the one said loudest; it is a teaching mark, not part of normal spelling. In the sound guides the stressed syllable is in

capitals: mah-lah-KOH.

здра́вствуйте

zdravstvuyte

ZDRAHST-vooy-tee

greeting · polite

hello

приве́т

privet

pree-VYEHT

greeting · friendly

hi

вы

vy

vih

pronoun

you (polite or plural)

ты

ty

tih

pronoun

you (friendly, one person)

как дела́?

kak dela?

kahk dee-LAH

question

how are you?

хорошо́

khorosho

khuh-rah-SHOH

adverb

good, well

CORE IDEAS

The story. Russian children grow up with the fairy tale of Снегу́рочка, the Snow Maiden, a girl made of snow who came to life in the winter forest. The tale is old and has many versions, and children know it as a story, not as something true. In 1899 the painter Viktor Vasnetsov painted her: a girl in a white fur coat and hat, standing alone among the snowy trees at night, with the moon shining through the branches. She looks as if she is about to greet someone coming down the path.

How Russian works: вы and ты. Russian has two words for you. Ты is for one friend, a child, a brother or sister, Mom and Dad, and for God in prayer. Вы is polite: for a grown-up you do not know well, a teacher, an older person, and for any group. With вы you say Здра́вствуйте! With ты you can say Приве́т! or Здра́вствуй! (the short form).

Как дела́? To ask how someone is, say Как дела́? The usual answers are Хорошо́! (good), Отли́чно! (great), Норма́льно (fine) or Пло́хо (bad). Then ask back: А у тебя́? to a friend, А у вас? to a grown-up.

PICTURE STUDY



The Snow Maiden, Viktor Vasnetsov, 1899 · Oil on canvas · State Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Vasnetsov loved Russian fairy tales and painted many of their heroes. Here everything is white, blue and silver. The Snow Maiden stands very still, as quiet as the snow.

Look closely

- What is she wearing? Why?
- What time of day is it? How can you tell?
- What trees stand around her?
- Does she look friendly, shy or sad?

Talk about it

1. If you met her on the path, would you say Здра́вствуйте! or Приве́т!? Why?
2. Which fairy tales do you know from other countries?

ACTIVITY

Greeting role cards

Make cards for people you might meet, and practice the right greeting for each.

You will need

- Eight index cards
- Markers

Steps

1. On each card draw or write a person: your friend, your teacher, a new neighbor, your grandma, a shop clerk, a baby, your pastor, a group of children.
2. On the back, write ты or вы and the right greeting (Приве́т! or Здра́вствуйте!).
3. Shuffle the cards. Draw one, greet the person and ask Как дела́? the right way.
4. Check the back of the card.

Tips

- Ask a parent to answer as the person on the card.

Check your work

☐ I made eight cards.

☐ I chose

т or

ы

в correctly for each person.

ы

RUSSIAN NOTEBOOK

1. Start your Russian notebook: write Здра́вствуйте!, Приве́т!, Как дела́? and four answers. Mark each greeting “вы” or “ты”.

> **From history.** In Russian prayers, God is always called Ты, the close family word, even though Russians say вы to any grown-up they do not know. Russian Christians see this as a sign that God is our Father and we may come close to Him.

> **At home in Russian.** If your student already speaks Russian, talk about whom you call ты and вы in your own family, and practice greeting relatives on a video call.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. You meet your friend's mother for the first time. Greet her and ask how she is.

▼ **Show solution**

1. She is a grown-up you do not know well: use вы.
2. Polite hello: Здра́вствуйте!

Answer: Здра́вствуйте! Как дела́? (Or more politely: Как у вас дела́?)

Example 2. Your friend says Приве́т! Как дела́? Answer and ask back.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Answer: Хорошо́, спаси́бо!
2. Ask back to a friend: А у тебя́?

Answer: Хорошо́, спаси́бо! А у тебя́?

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say hello politely in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Здра́вствуйте!

2. Easy Say hi to a friend in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Приве́т!

3. Easy Ask how someone is in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Как дела́?

4. Medium Do you use ты or вы with your little brother? With a new teacher?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Ты with my brother; вы with a new teacher.

5. Medium Answer Как дела́? with “great, thanks”.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Отли́чно, спаси́бо!

6. Hard Why do Russians use ты when praying to God?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Ты is the close, family word; we speak to God as our Father.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying Приве́т! to a teacher. Use Здра́вствуйте! with grown-ups and groups.
- Answering Как дела́? with Меня́ зову́т…. It asks how you are, not your name.

> **Make it a game · Ты or вы?.** A parent names a person (your cousin, the mail carrier, a group of friends, your dog…). The student points to a card that says ТЫ or ВЫ and gives the right greeting. One point for each correct greeting.

> **Scripture.** “Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;” (Romans 12:10, KJV)
>
> Russian Synodal Bible (1876): *в почтительности друг друга предупреждайте*
> Showing honor to others is part of loving them. Choosing the polite вы is one way to honor a grown-up.

1.2 Меня́ зову́т...: Introducing Yourself

OBJECTIVES

- Introduce yourself in Russian.
- Ask someone's name politely and in a friendly way.
- Say where you are from.

> **Warm-up.** Greet a parent politely and ask Как дела́? Now imagine you are meeting a Russian family for the first time. What will you tell them about yourself? Today you learn how.

WATCH

Learn Russian - Learn How to Introduce Yourself in Russian

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 3:47

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CjXXdLjnTFU

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; pause after each line and say it about yourself.

Note: RussianPod101: how to introduce yourself in Russian, step by step.

BACKUP VIDEO

Learn the Top 10 Must-Know Russian Lines you Need for Introducing Yourself

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 5:18

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kVZSK59lytc

RussianPod101: ten must-know lines for introducing yourself in Russian. Watch the first five.

KEY TERMS

Как вас зову́т? (kahk vahs zah-VOOT)
What is your name? (polite).

Как тебя́ зову́т? (kahk tee-BYAH zah-VOOT)
What is your name? (friendly).

Меня́ зову́т… (mee-NYAH zah-VOOT)

My name is… (literally “they call me…”).

О́чень прия́тно! (OH-cheen pree-YAHT-nuh)

Nice to meet you! (literally “very pleasant”).

Я из Аме́рики. (yah eez ah-MYEH-ree-kee)

I am from America.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Russian is written in Cyrillic. The mark over a vowel (молоко́) shows the stressed syllable, the one said loudest; it is a teaching mark, not part of normal spelling. In the sound guides the stressed syllable is in capitals: mah-lah-KOH.

меня́ зову́т

menya zovut

mee-NYAH zah-VOOT

phrase

my name is

как вас зову́т?

kak vas zovut?

kahk vahs zah-VOOT

question · polite

what is your name?

о́чень прия́тно

ochen priyatno

OH-cheen pree-YAHT-nuh

phrase

nice to meet you

я из Аме́рики

ya iz Ameriki

yah eez ah-MYEH-ree-kee

phrase

I am from America

отку́да

otkuda

aht-KOO-duh

question word

where from

CORE IDEAS

The story. Through the prophet Isaiah, God spoke to His people Israel: Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. God does not know us only as a crowd. He knows each person by name. When you tell someone your name, remember that God knew it first.

How Russian works. Russians do not say “my name is”. They say Меня́ зову́т, “they call me”: Меня́ зову́т Са́ра. To ask a grown-up, say Как вас зову́т? and to ask a child, Как тебя́ зову́т? After the names, both people say О́чень прия́тно! (nice to meet you).

Where are you from? Отку́да ты? or Отку́да вы? means where are you from. Answer with Я из and a place: Я из Аме́рики (from America), Я из Техáса (from Texas), Я из Москвы́ (from Moscow). After из the name of the place changes its ending a little; for now, learn it as a whole phrase.

ACTIVITY

My name badge and passport

Make a name badge and a little “passport” page about yourself in Russian.

You will need

- Paper or cardstock
- Markers
- A photo or self-portrait
- Tape or a safety pin

Steps

1. Make a badge: write Меня́ зову́т … and your name in Cyrillic with a parent’s help.
2. Fold a paper in half for a passport. Glue your photo or draw yourself inside.
3. Write: Меня́ зову́т … Я из … (your country or state).
4. Wear the badge and introduce yourself to three family members, who answer О́чень прия́тно!

Tips

- Write your name in Cyrillic: Sarah is Са́ра, John is Джон, Grace is Грейс, Daniel is Дэ́ниел.

Check your work

- ☐ My badge and passport are in Russian.
- ☐ I can introduce myself without looking.

RUSSIAN NOTEBOOK

1. In your notebook, write a three-line introduction: a greeting, Меня́ зову́т …, Я из …. Then write the two ways to ask a name.

From history. Russians have three names: a first name, a patronymic made from the father's name, and a family name. A boy named Ива́н whose father is Пётр is Ива́н Петро́вич. His sister О́льга is О́льга Петро́вна. Grown-ups are politely called by first name and patronymic together.

At home in Russian. If your student already speaks Russian, work out your family's patronymics together (what would your student's be?), and practice introducing a parent politely: Э́то мой па́па, Пётр Ива́нович.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. You meet a Russian grandmother at church. Introduce yourself and ask her name.

▼ **Show solution**

1. She is a grown-up: use вы.
2. Greeting, your name, then Как вас зову́т?

Answer: Здра́вствуйте! Меня́ зову́т … Как вас зову́т?

Example 2. A boy says Меня́ зову́т Ми́ша. What do you say back?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Tell him your name.
2. Add nice to meet you.

Answer: Меня́ зову́т … О́чень прия́тно!

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say your name in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Меня́ зову́т … (your name).

2. Easy Say nice to meet you in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   О́чень прия́тно!

3. Easy Say I am from America.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Я из Аме́рики.

4. Medium Ask a child his name. Ask a grown-up her name.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Как тебя́ зову́т? … Как вас зову́т?

5. Medium Ask a friend where she is from.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Отку́да ты?

6. Hard Write a short meeting: greet a grown-up, give your name, ask hers, say nice to meet you.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Здра́вствуйте! Меня́ зову́т … Как вас зову́т? … О́чень прия́тно!

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying Моё и́мя… for my name is. It is correct but stiff; Russians say Меня́ зову́т….
- Using тебя́ with a grown-up you do not know. Ask Как вас зову́т?

> **Make it a game · Mystery guest.** A parent pretends to be a famous Bible person or a character from a book and enters saying Здра́вствуйте! The student asks Как вас зову́т? and Отку́да вы? The guest answers in Russian (Меня́ зову́т Дави́д. Я из Вифлее́ма.) and the student guesses.

> **Scripture.** “But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.” (Isaiah 43:1, KJV)
>
> Russian Synodal Bible (1876): *назвал тебя по имени твоему; ты Мой* God knows each of His people by name. Your name matters to Him.

UNIT 2

Чи́сла: Numbers to 20

Lesson 2.1 teaches the numbers 0–10 and Ско́лько? (how many?), with Bogdanov-Belsky's painting Mental Arithmetic.

Lesson 2.2 teaches the numbers 11–20 and sums out loud: Два плюс три бу́дет пять.

PREREQUISITES

- Unit 1.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can count from zero to twenty in Russian.
- ☐ I can ask and answer

  Ск
  о́л
  ьк
  о?
- ☐ I can read a simple sum aloud in Russian.
- ☐ I can say what Jesus said about the hairs of our head.

OPTIONAL BOOKS AND RESOURCES FOR THIS UNIT

- **Wiktionary (Russian entries)**: Free online: every Russian word with its stress, meaning, endings and often a recording by a native speaker.

Not required. Every activity in this unit works with paper, pencil, scissors and the free links below. School Launch is independent and free.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

2.1	**Ноль, оди́н, два… де́сять**	3 sessions of 20–30 minutes
2.2	**Оди́ннадцать… два́дцать: Sums Out Loud**	3 sessions of 20–30 minutes

Unit 2 review

Ask out loud or on paper. The test is worth 20 points.

1. **4 pts**
   Count from one to ten in Russian.

2. **4 pts**
   Say 12, 15 and 20 in Russian.

3. **4 pts**
   Read aloud: 7 + 5 = 12.

4. **4 pts**
   Ask how many, and answer “eleven”.

5. **4 pts**
   What did Jesus say about the hairs of our head?

ANSWER KEY

1. Оди́н, два, три, четы́ре, пять, шесть, семь, во́семь, де́вять, де́сять.
2. Двена́дцать, пятна́дцать, два́дцать.
3. Семь плюс пять бу́дет двена́дцать.
4. Ско́лько? — Оди́ннадцать.
5. They are all numbered: God knows and cares for us completely.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: RUSSIAN NUMBER BOOK

Make a book from 1 to 20 with the numeral, the Russian word, and that many dots or drawings on each page. Read it aloud, and add a page of five sums written and read in Russian.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Speaking	The student counts aloud from 0 to 20 without help.
Accuracy	The words and numerals match on every page.
Product	The book has 20 number pages and a page of sums.
Effort	The student works carefully and joins in cheerfully.

UNIT 2 · ЧИ́СЛА: NUMBERS TO 20 · LESSON 2.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES

2.1 Ноль, оди́н, два… де́сять

OBJECTIVES

- Count from zero to ten in Russian.
- Ask Ско́лько? (how many?) and answer with a number.
- Look closely at a painting of a village arithmetic lesson.

> **Warm-up.** Count to ten as fast as you can in English. Can you count backward? Today you count in Russian.

WATCH

Learn Russian - Russian in Three Minutes - Numbers 1-10

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 3:48

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJEUhJeGooQ

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the story; count along on your fingers.

Note: RussianPod101 Russian in Three Minutes: numbers 1–10.

BACKUP VIDEO

How to Count in Russian?

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 6:11

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cyuLL_m1LeE

RussianPod101: how to count in Russian.

KEY TERMS

ноль (nohl)
Zero.

оди́н, два, три (ah-DEEN dvah tree)
One, two, three.

четы́ре, пять, шесть (chee-TIH-ree pyaht shehst)
Four, five, six.

семь, во́семь, де́вять, де́сять (syehm VOH-seem DYEH-vuht DYEH-suht)
Seven, eight, nine, ten.

Ско́лько? (SKOHL-kuh)
How many? How much?

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Russian is written in Cyrillic. The mark over a vowel (молоко́) shows the stressed syllable, the one said loudest; it is a teaching mark, not part of normal spelling. In the sound guides the stressed syllable is in capitals: mah-lah-KOH.

ноль

nohl

number

zero

оди́н

ah-DEEN

number

one

два

dvah

number

two

три

tree

number

three

четы́ре

chee-TIH-ree

number

four

пять

pyaht

number

five

де́сять

DYEH-suht

number

ten

ско́лько?

SKOHL-kuh

question word

how many? how much?

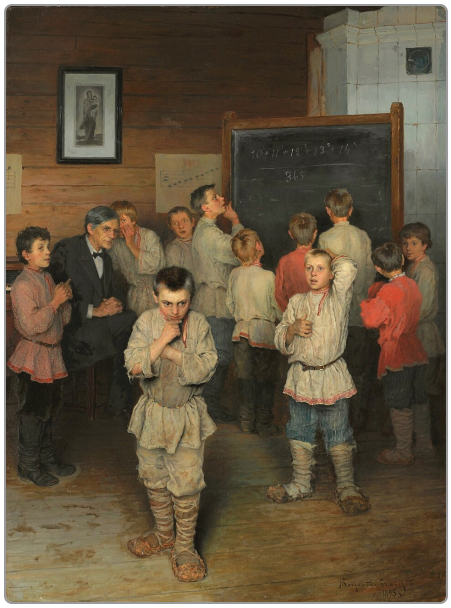
CORE IDEAS

The story. At the village school of the teacher Sergei Rachinsky, children learned to do arithmetic in their heads. Rachinsky wrote hard problems on the blackboard and the pupils worked them out without paper. One of his old pupils, the painter Nikolai Bogdanov-Belsky, painted this scene: boys in bast shoes and peasant shirts stand around the board, thinking hard. One boy whispers the answer in the teacher's ear. The problem on the board is real, and you can solve it too!

How Russian sounds. Оди́н (ah-DEEN), два (dvah), три (tree), четы́ре (chee-TUY-ree), пять (pyaht'), шесть (shehst'), семь (syehm'), во́семь (VOH-seem'), де́вять (DYEH-veet'), де́сять (DYEH-seet'). Zero is ноль. Notice the soft ending ь on пять to де́сять.

Ско́лько? To ask how many, say Ско́лько? and point: Ско́лько ма́льчиков? (how many boys?) Answer with just the number: Пять. (The word after ско́лько changes its ending; for now just answer with the number.)

PICTURE STUDY



Mental Arithmetic (In the Public School of S. A. Rachinsky), Nikolai Bogdanov-Belsky, 1895 · Oil on canvas · State Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

The problem on the board is $(10^2 + 11^2 + 12^2 + 13^2 + 14^2) \div 365$. Rachinsky's pupils solved it in their heads. (The answer is 2.) Look at each boy's face: they are all thinking in different ways.

Look closely

- How many boys can you count? Say the number in Russian.
- Who is the man sitting at the side?
- What is the boy in front doing with his hand?
- Which boy do you think has the answer?

Talk about it

1. How do you like to solve hard problems: in your head, on paper or with someone?
2. Why do you think the painter remembered this teacher his whole life?

ACTIVITY

Number hopscotch

Draw a hopscotch from 0 to 10 and hop it in Russian.

You will need

- Sidewalk chalk or tape on the floor
- A small stone or beanbag

Steps

1. Draw eleven squares numbered 0 to 10.
2. Toss the stone. Hop to it, saying each number in Russian as you land.
3. Pick up the stone and hop back, counting down.
4. Ask a partner Ско́лько? after each turn: how many squares did you hop?

Tips

- Write the Russian words in the squares instead of numerals.

Check your work

- ☐ I hopped from 0 to 10 in Russian.
- ☐ I can count down from 10 too.

RUSSIAN NOTEBOOK

1. In your notebook, write the numerals 0–10 with the Russian word beside each. Mark the stress in each word.

> **From history.** Many Russian children learned to count with an abacus called the счёты. Shopkeepers used счёты to add up prices until computers came along, and some old shops still have them on the counter.

> **At home in Russian.** If your student already speaks Russian, practice counting objects with the right endings (два я́блока, пять я́блок) and talk about why the endings change.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Count the boys in a group of seven and answer Ско́лько?

▼ **Show solution**

1. Count: оди́н, два, три…
2. The seventh is семь.

Answer: Семь.

Example 2. Say your phone number or a family member's birthday digits in Russian.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Say each digit separately.
2. Remember ноль for 0.

Answer: For example: пять, ноль, три…

PRACTICE

1. Easy Count from one to five in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Оди́н, два, три, четы́ре, пять.

2. Easy Say zero in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Ноль.

3. Easy Say ten in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Де́сять.

4. Medium Count from ten down to one in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Де́сять, де́вять, во́семь, семь, шесть, пять, четы́ре, три, два, оди́н.

5. Medium How do you ask how many?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Ско́лько?

6. Hard Read aloud: 3, 8, 4, 9, 6.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Три, во́семь, четы́ре, де́вять, шесть.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying CHE-ty-re. The loud part is in the middle: chee-TUY-ree.
- Saying VO-sem with a hard m. The ь makes it soft: VOH-seem’.

> **Make it a game · Number slap.** Spread number cards 0–10 on the table. A parent says a number in Russian; the first to slap the right card keeps it. Then switch: the student calls the numbers.

> **Scripture.** “So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.” (Psalm 90:12, KJV)
>
> Russian Synodal Bible (1876): *Научи нас так счислять дни наши, чтобы нам приобрести сердце мудрое* (Psalm 89:12 in the Russian numbering) Moses asked God to teach us to number our days, so that we would use our time wisely.

UNIT 2 · ЧИ́СЛА: NUMBERS TO 20 · LESSON 2.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES

2.2 Оди́ннадцать… два́дцать: Sums Out Loud

OBJECTIVES

- Count from eleven to twenty in Russian.
- Read a simple sum aloud: плюс, ми́нус, бу́дет.
- Hear what Jesus said about how well God knows us.

> **Warm-up.** Count from zero to ten in Russian. What comes next? Today you learn the teens and do sums out loud.

WATCH

Learn Russian - Russian in Three Minutes - Numbers 11-100

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 5:13

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_yYSlKrvPro

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; stop the main video at два́дцать (20) and count back down together.

Note: RussianPod101 Russian in Three Minutes: numbers 11–100. Stop at twenty.

BACKUP VIDEO

Learn Russian - Russian in Three Minutes - Numbers 1-10

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 3:48

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJEUhJeGooQ

RussianPod101 Russian in Three Minutes: numbers 1–10, for review.

KEY TERMS

оди́ннадцать (ah-DEEN-nuhd-tsuht)
Eleven.

двена́дцать (dvee-NAHD-tsuht)
Twelve.

пятна́дцать (peet-NAHD-tsuht)
Fifteen.

два́дцать (DVAHD-tsuht)
Twenty.

плюс, ми́нус, бу́дет (plyoos MEE-noos BOO-deet)
Plus, minus, equals (literally “will be”).

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Russian is written in Cyrillic. The mark over a vowel (молоко́) shows the stressed syllable, the one said loudest; it is a teaching mark, not part of normal spelling. In the sound guides the stressed syllable is in capitals: mah-lah-KOH.

оди́ннадцать

ah-DEEN-nuhd-tsuht

number

eleven

двена́дцать

dvee-NAHD-tsuht

number

twelve

пятна́дцать

peet-NAHD-tsuht

number

fifteen

два́дцать

DVAHD-tsuht

number

twenty

плюс

plyoos

word

plus

ми́нус

MEE-noos

word

minus

бу́дет

BOO-deet

verb form

will be, equals

CORE IDEAS

The story. Jesus told His disciples not to be afraid, because God takes care of even the smallest sparrow. Then He said: But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. You could not count the hairs on your head even if you tried for a day! But God knows the exact number. He knows you completely and cares for every part of your life.

How Russian works. The teens are built like a puzzle: the small number + на + дцать (from де́сять, ten). Оди́н-на-дцать is one-on-ten, eleven: ah-DEE-nuh-tsuht'. Двена́дцать (12), трина́дцать (13), четы́рнадцать (14), пятна́дцать (15), шестна́дцать (16), семна́дцать (17), восемна́дцать (18), девятна́дцать (19). Twenty is два́дцать.

Sums out loud. Russian children read sums like this: Два плюс три бу́дет пять. (2 + 3 = 5.) Де́сять ми́нус четы́ре бу́дет шесть. (10 − 4 = 6.) Бу́дет means “will be”. You can also say равно́ (equals).

ACTIVITY

Sum strips

Make strips with sums on the front and the answer in Russian on the back, and quiz the family.

You will need

- Paper strips
- Markers

Steps

1. Write ten sums with answers up to 20 on the front of the strips (7 + 6 = ?).
2. On the back, write the full sentence in Russian: Семь плюс шесть бу́дет трина́дцать.
3. Read each sum aloud in Russian and answer before you flip it.
4. Quiz a parent. Can they answer in Russian?

Tips

- Make two of the sums take-aways with ми́нус.

Check your work

☐ I made ten sum strips.

☐ I can read each sum aloud in Russian.

RUSSIAN NOTEBOOK

1. In your notebook, write the numbers 11–20 with their Russian words, and five sums written out in Russian words.

> **From history.** The Russian word for hundred is сто, and the word for thousand is ты́сяча. In old Russia, a huge number was called тьма, the word for darkness, as if there were too many to see!

> **At home in Russian.** If your student already speaks Russian, solve Rachinsky's blackboard problem together in Russian, saying each step aloud.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Read aloud: 8 + 4 = 12.

▼ **Show solution**

1. 8 is во́семь, 4 is четы́ре.
2. + is плюс, = is бу́дет, 12 is двена́дцать.

Answer: Во́семь плюс четы́ре бу́дет двена́дцать.

Example 2. Read aloud: 20 − 5 = 15.

▼ **Show solution**

1. 20 is два́дцать, − is ми́нус.
2. 15 is пятна́дцать.

Answer: Два́дцать ми́нус пять бу́дет пятна́дцать.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say eleven and twelve in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Оди́ннадцать, двена́дцать.

2. Easy Say twenty in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Два́дцать.

3. Medium Count from 11 to 15 in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Оди́ннадцать, двена́дцать, трина́дцать, четы́рнадцать, пятна́дцать.

4. Medium Read aloud: 9 + 9 = 18.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Де́вять плюс де́вять бу́дет восемна́дцать.

5. Medium Read aloud: 17 − 7 = 10.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Семна́дцать ми́нус семь бу́дет де́сять.

6. Hard Solve and say in Russian: 6 + 7 = ? and 20 − 9 = ?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Шесть плюс семь бу́дет трина́дцать. Два́дцать ми́нус де́вять бу́дет оди́ннадцать.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying o-din-NAD-tsat. The loud part is on ДИ: ah-DEE-nuh-tsuht’.
- Saying the д in -дцать. It is almost silent: -tsuht’.

> **Make it a game · Twenty.** Two players take turns counting up from one in Russian, saying one, two or three numbers each turn. Whoever has to say два́дцать loses. Play several rounds and look for a winning plan!

> **Scripture.** “But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.” (Matthew 10:30, KJV)
>
> Russian Synodal Bible (1876): *у вас же и волосы на голове все сочтены* God knows every hair on your head. Nothing about you is too small for Him to care about.

UNIT 3

Цвета́ и фо́рмы: Colors and Shapes

Lesson 3.1 teaches new colors (голубо́й, ро́зовый, кори́чневый, се́рый, фиоле́товый) and how color words match masculine, feminine and neuter nouns, with Kustodiev’s Shrovetide.

Lesson 3.2 teaches the shapes and the size words большо́й and ма́ленький.

PREREQUISITES

- Units 1 and 2. Colors from Kindergarten (кра́сный, жёлтый, зелёный, си́ний, бе́лый, чёрный) are reviewed.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can name twelve colors in Russian.
- ☐ I can make a color word match a masculine, feminine or neuter noun.
- ☐ I can name five shapes in Russian.
- ☐ I can describe something with a size and a color.

OPTIONAL BOOKS AND RESOURCES FOR THIS UNIT

- **Wiktionary (Russian entries)**: Free online: every Russian word with its stress, meaning, endings and often a recording by a native speaker.

Not required. Every activity in this unit works with paper, pencil, scissors and the free links below. School Launch is independent and free.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

3.1	**Кра́сный, кра́сная, кра́сное: Colors That Match**	3 sessions of 20–30 minutes
3.2	**Круг, квадра́т, треуго́льник: Shapes**	3 sessions of 20–30 minutes

Unit 3 review

Show colored shapes and ask. The test is worth 20 points.

1. **4 pts**
   Name these colors in Russian: light blue, pink, brown, gray.

2. **4 pts**
   Say red with each word: шар (ball), ша́пка (hat), я́блоко (apple).

3. **4 pts**

   Name a circle, a square and a triangle in Russian.

4. **4 pts**

   Say “a big yellow star” in Russian.

5. **4 pts**

   What did Jacob give Joseph?

ANSWER KEY

1. Голубо́й, ро́зовый, кори́чневый, се́рый.
2. Кра́сный шар, кра́сная ша́пка, кра́сное я́блоко.
3. Круг, квадра́т, треуго́льник.
4. Больша́я жёлтая звезда́.
5. A coat of many colours.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: SHAPE-AND-COLOR PICTURE

Make a picture out of cut-paper shapes (a house of squares and triangles, a sun of circles, stars). Write a label for each part in Russian with a size and a color word that match, and present it.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Speaking	The student describes at least six parts aloud.
Accuracy	The color and size words match their nouns.
Product	The picture uses all five shapes.
Effort	The student works carefully and joins in cheerfully.

UNIT 3 · ЦВЕТА́ И ФО́РМЫ: COLORS AND SHAPES · LESSON 3.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES

3.1 Кра́сный, кра́сная, кра́сное: Colors That Match

OBJECTIVES

- Name twelve colors in Russian.
- Match a color word to a masculine, feminine or neuter noun.
- Look closely at a Russian winter fair.

> **Warm-up.** Name all the colors you see in the room in English. Do you know any in Russian already? Today you learn more, and you learn a Russian secret: color words change their endings!

WATCH

Learn Russian - Russian Color Vocabulary

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 2:40

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=38z9Gv70Juo

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; for the backup, play only 12:08 to 14:36.

Note: RussianPod101: color words in Russian with pictures.

BACKUP VIDEO

Learn Russian for Kids - Numbers, Colors & More

Rock 'N Learn · 37:07

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oE_QegYAvTc

Rock ’N Learn: Learn Russian for Kids. Play only Practice the Colors, from 12:08 to 14:36. The video is long; stop it there.

KEY TERMS

голубо́й (guh-loo-BOHY)
Light blue, sky blue.

ро́зовый (ROH-zuh-vihy)
Pink.

кори́чневый (kah-REECH-nee-vihy)

Brown.

се́рый (SYEH-rihy)

Gray.

фиоле́товый (fee-ah-LYEH-tuh-vihy)

Purple.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Russian is written in Cyrillic. The mark over a vowel (молоко́) shows the stressed syllable, the one said loudest; it is a teaching mark, not part of normal spelling. In the sound guides the stressed syllable is in capitals: mah-lah-KOH.

голубо́й

guh-loo-BOHY

adjective

light blue

ро́зовый

ROH-zuh-vihy

adjective

pink

кори́чневый

kah-REECH-nee-vihy

adjective

brown

се́рый

SYEH-rihy

adjective

gray

фиоле́товый

fee-ah-LYEH-tuh-vihy

adjective

purple

кра́сная

KRAHS-nuh-yuh

adjective · feminine form

red (with a feminine noun)

CORE IDEAS

The story. Boris Kustodiev loved the bright, happy side of old Russian life. In 1916, though he was ill and could not walk, he painted a whole town on the last days before Lent. Russians call this week Ма́сленица, and they eat stacks of pancakes and ride in sleighs before the forty days of fasting begin. The snow is white and pink, the sky is gold and blue, horses pull red and green sleighs, and the churches shine on the hill.

How Russian works: colors that match. Every Russian noun is masculine, feminine or neuter. A color word changes its ending to match. Masculine words often end in a consonant: кра́сный шар (a red ball). Feminine words often end in -a or -я: кра́сная ша́пка (a red hat). Neuter words often end in -о or -е: кра́сное я́блоко (a red apple). So the endings are -ый, -ая, -ое.

More colors. Russian has two words for blue: си́ний is dark blue and голубо́й is light blue, and to Russians they are as different as red and pink. Pink is ро́зовый (from the word for rose), brown is кори́чневый (from the word for cinnamon), gray is се́рый, and purple is фиоле́товый (from the violet flower).

PICTURE STUDY



Shrovetide (Maslenitsa), Boris Kustodiev, 1916 · Oil on canvas · State Russian Museum, St. Petersburg

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Kustodiev painted this from memory and imagination while sick in bed. He filled it with every color he could. Look for the sleighs, the churches and the crowds at the fair.

Look closely

- Find something кра́сное (red) and say it.
- What color is the sky? Use two Russian colors.
- Find a sleigh. What color is it?
- How many churches can you count?

Talk about it

1. Why do you think Kustodiev painted such a happy picture while he was sick?
2. What is the most colorful day of the year in your family?

ACTIVITY

Color-ending sorter

Sort nouns into three boxes and give each one a color.

You will need

- Three small boxes or bowls labeled -ый, -ая, -ое
- Cards with nouns: стол, кот, шар, ша́пка, ко́шка, кни́га, я́блоко, окно́, со́лнце

Steps

1. Read each noun card and decide: masculine, feminine or neuter?
2. Put it in the right box.
3. Pick a color for each and say it with the right ending: зелёный стол, бе́лая ко́шка, жёлтое со́лнце.
4. Write three of your phrases in your notebook.

Tips

- Mix in the new colors: ро́зовая кни́га, се́рый кот.

Check your work

☐ I sorted nine nouns.

☐ I said a matching color for each one.

RUSSIAN NOTEBOOK

1. In your notebook, make a color chart with twelve colors: a crayon stripe and the Russian word beside it. Then write three phrases with -ый, -ая and -ое.

> **From history.** Ма́сленица is the week before Great Lent in the Orthodox Church. It is named for butter (ма́сло), because it is the last week before the fast when butter, milk and cheese may be eaten. Families make piles of thin pancakes, блины́, and ask one another’s forgiveness on the last Sunday, called Forgiveness Sunday.

> **At home in Russian.** If your student already speaks Russian, add the plural ending -ые (кра́сные шары́) and describe everything on the dinner table by color.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Say “a gray cat” and “a gray mouse (мышь, feminine)”.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Кот is masculine: се́рый.
2. Мышь is feminine: се́рая.

Answer: Се́рый кот, се́рая мышь.

Example 2. Say “a pink apple” in Russian.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Я́блоко ends in -о: neuter.
2. Neuter ending: -ое.

Answer: Ро́зовое я́блоко.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say pink and brown in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Ро́зовый, кори́чневый.

2. Easy Which blue is the sky: си́ний or голубо́й?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Голубо́й (light blue).

3. Medium Say “a green table” (стол).

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Зелёный стол.

4. Medium Say “a white cat (ко́шка)”.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Бе́лая ко́шка.

5. Medium Say “a yellow sun (со́лнце)”.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Жёлтое со́лнце.

6. Hard Is окно́ masculine, feminine or neuter? Say “a gray window” using се́рый.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Neuter: се́рое окно́.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Using the same ending for every noun: кра́сный ша́пка. Match it: кра́сная ша́пка.
- Calling the sky си́ний. A clear sky is голубо́е не́бо; си́ний is dark blue.

> **Make it a game · I spy in Russian.** Say Я ви́жу что-то … (I see something …) and a color with the right ending. The others guess the object. Whoever guesses gives the next clue.

> **Scripture.** “Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colours.” (Genesis 37:3, KJV)
>
> Russian Synodal Bible (1876): *и сделал ему разноцветную одежду* Jacob gave Joseph a coat of many colours to show his love. God made a world of colors to show His goodness to us.

UNIT 3 · ЦВЕТА́ И ФО́РМЫ: COLORS AND SHAPES · LESSON 3.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES

3.2 Круг, квадра́т, треуго́льник: SHAPES

OBJECTIVES

- Name five shapes in Russian.

- Use большо́й and ма́ленький with the right ending.
- Describe a thing with a size, a color and a shape.

> **Warm-up.** Look around the room for a circle, a square and a triangle. Today you learn their names in Russian.

WATCH

Learn Russian for Kids - Numbers, Colors & More

Rock 'N Learn · 37:07

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oE_QegYAvTc

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; for the main video, play only 29:02 to 32:45 and name the colors and numbers aloud.

Note: Rock ’N Learn: Learn Russian for Kids. Play only Color and Number Practice with Toys, from 29:02 to 32:45. The video is long; stop it there.

BACKUP VIDEO

Learn Russian - Russian Color Vocabulary

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 2:40

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=38z9Gv70Juo

RussianPod101: color words in Russian with pictures, for review.

KEY TERMS

круг (krook)
Circle.

квадра́т (kvahd-RAHT)
Square.

треуго́льник (tree-oo-GOHL-neek)
Triangle (literally “three-corner”).

се́рдце (SYEHR-tseh)
Heart. The д is silent.

большо́й, ма́ленький (bahl-SHOHY MAH-leen-keey)

Big, small.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Russian is written in Cyrillic. The mark over a vowel (молоко́) shows the stressed syllable, the one said loudest; it is a teaching mark, not part of normal spelling. In the sound guides the stressed syllable is in capitals: mah-lah-KOH.

круг

krook

noun · masculine

circle

квадра́т

kvahd-RAHT

noun · masculine

square

треуго́льник

tree-oo-GOHL-neek

noun · masculine

triangle

се́рдце

SYEHR-tseh

noun · neuter

heart

большо́й

bahl-SHOHY

adjective

big

ма́ленький

MAH-leen-keey

adjective

small

CORE IDEAS

The story. The prophet Isaiah wrote that God sits above the circle of the earth, and that He stretched out the heavens like a curtain and spread them out like a tent. God is the great designer: He made the round sun and moon, the six-sided snowflake and the star. When we draw shapes, we copy what He made first.

How Russian sounds. Круг is krook: the г sounds like k at the end. Квадра́т is kvah-DRAHT. Треуго́льник is tree-oo-GOHL'-neek: три (three) + у́гол (corner). Звезда́ is star, and се́рдце is heart, said SYEHR-tseh.

Size and color together. Size words match like colors do. Большо́й (big) becomes больша́я and большо́е; ма́ленький (small) becomes ма́ленькая and ма́ленькое. Put them together: большо́й кра́сный круг (a big red circle), ма́ленькая жёлтая звезда́ (a small yellow star), большо́е ро́зовое се́рдце (a big pink heart).

ACTIVITY

Shape mosaic

Make a picture from paper shapes and describe each one in Russian.

You will need

- Colored paper
- Safety scissors
- Glue
- A large sheet of paper

Steps

1. Cut out circles, squares, triangles, stars and hearts of different sizes and colors.
2. Arrange them into a picture: a house, a church, a train or a face.
3. Glue them down.
4. Point to each shape and describe it: большо́й си́ний квадра́т, ма́ленькая жёлтая звезда́.

Tips

- Count the shapes of each kind and say the numbers in Russian.

Check your work

- ☐ My mosaic uses five shapes.
- ☐ I can describe each with a size and a color.

RUSSIAN NOTEBOOK

1. In your notebook, draw the five shapes and write their names. Then write three descriptions with a size and a color.

> **From history.** The domes of Russian churches are often shaped like onions, and the Russian Orthodox cross has three crossbars. The small top bar stands for the sign over Jesus' head, and the slanted bottom bar is a footrest.

> **At home in Russian.** If your student already speaks Russian, add прямоуго́льник (rectangle) and ова́л (oval), and describe the shapes in Kustodiev's painting.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Describe a small red heart.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Се́рдце ends in -e: neuter.
2. Neuter: ма́ленькое, кра́сное.

Answer: Ма́ленькое кра́сное се́рдце.

Example 2. Describe a big green triangle.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Треуго́льник is masculine.
2. Masculine: большо́й, зелёный.

Answer: Большо́й зелёный треуго́льник.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say circle in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Круг.

2. Easy Say square in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Квадра́т.

3. **Medium** Say triangle in Russian. What does it mean literally?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Треуго́льник: three-corner.

4. **Medium** Say “a big star (звезда́)”.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Больша́я звезда́.

5. **Medium** Which letter is silent in се́рдце?

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Д: SYEHR-tseh.

6. **Hard** Describe three shapes on your mosaic with size and color.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   For example: большо́й си́ний круг, ма́ленький кра́сный квадра́т, больша́я жёлтая звезда́.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying krug with a g. At the end of a word г sounds like k: krook.
- Mixing the endings when there are two words: большо́й кра́сная звезда́. Both match: больша́я кра́сная звезда́.

> **Make it a game · Shape hunt.** Set a timer for three minutes. Find as many shapes in the house as you can, and describe each in Russian with a color (кра́сный круг!). One point for each correct description.

> **Scripture.** “It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in:” (Isaiah 40:22, KJV)
>
> Russian Synodal Bible (1876): *Он есть Тот, Который восседает над кругом земли*
> God sits above the circle of the earth. He designed the whole world, every shape and every star.

UNIT 4

Семья́ за столо́м: The Family Table

Lesson 4.1 teaches the three meals and how to say what you eat and drink (я ем, я пью), with Makovsky's painting of an old couple having tea in the garden.

Lesson 4.2 teaches table things and polite requests: Переда́йте, пожа́луйста, хлеб!

PREREQUISITES

- Units 1–3. Food words from Grade 1 (хлеб, молоко́, вода́, чай, суп, ка́ша, я́блоко) are reviewed.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can name the three meals in Russian.
- ☐ I can say what I eat and drink with я ем and я пью.
- ☐ I can name five things on the table.
- ☐ I can ask politely for something at the table.

OPTIONAL BOOKS AND RESOURCES FOR THIS UNIT

- **Wiktionary (Russian entries)**: Free online: every Russian word with its stress, meaning, endings and often a recording by a native speaker.
- **Forvo**: Free pronunciation library: hear any Russian word said by native speakers (link only).

Not required. Every activity in this unit works with paper, pencil, scissors and the free links below. School Launch is independent and free.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

4.1	**За́втрак, обе́д, у́жин: Я ем, я пью**	3 sessions of 20–30 minutes
4.2	**Переда́йте, пожа́луйста…: At the Table**	3 sessions of 20–30 minutes

Unit 4 review

Ask out loud or on paper. The test is worth 20 points.

1. **4 pts**
   Name the three meals in Russian.

2. **4 pts**
   Say what you eat and drink for breakfast.

3. **4 pts**
   Name a spoon, a fork and a plate in Russian.

4. **4 pts**
   Ask politely for the bread.

5. **4 pts**
   What does 1 Corinthians 10:31 say about eating and drinking?

ANSWER KEY

1. За́втрак, обе́д, у́жин.
2. На за́втрак я ем ка́шу и пью молоко́. (Any true answer.)
3. Ло́жка, ви́лка, таре́лка.
4. Переда́йте, пожа́луйста, хлеб!
5. Whether we eat or drink, we should do all to the glory of God.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: RUSSIAN FAMILY MEAL

Plan and serve a simple meal (or tea) for the family, with a menu in Russian and a set table labeled in Russian. During the meal, ask for things politely and say what you are eating and drinking.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Speaking	The student speaks at least six Russian sentences at the meal.
Accuracy	Requests use пожа́луйста and спаси́бо; я ем and я пью are correct.
Product	The menu and table labels are in Russian.
Effort	The student works carefully and joins in cheerfully.

UNIT 4 · СЕМЬЯ́ ЗА СТОЛО́М: THE FAMILY TABLE · LESSON 4.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES

4.1 За́втрак, обе́д, у́жин: Я ем, я пью

OBJECTIVES

- Name breakfast, lunch and dinner in Russian.
- Say what you eat and drink with я ем and я пью.
- Look closely at a painting of tea in the garden.

> **Warm-up.** What did you eat for breakfast today? For lunch yesterday? Today you learn to say it in Russian.

WATCH

Russian Listening Comprehension - Talking About Breakfast in Russian

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 1:36

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cHEMG_e5NzE

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; listen for за́втрак and the foods, and answer the quiz question before the answer appears.

Note: RussianPod101: a short Russian listening quiz about breakfast.

BACKUP VIDEO

Weekly Russian Words with Katya - Food

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 2:04

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddvtnfMH-Xs

RussianPod101: Katya teaches food words in Russian.

KEY TERMS

за́втрак (ZAHF-truhk)
Breakfast.

обе́д (ah-BYEHT)
Lunch, the main midday meal.

у́жин (OO-zhihn)
Dinner, supper.

я ем (yah yehm)
I eat.

я пью (yah pyoo)
I drink.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Russian is written in Cyrillic. The mark over a vowel (молоко́) shows the stressed syllable, the one said loudest; it is a teaching mark, not part of normal spelling. In the sound guides the stressed syllable is in capitals: mah-lah-KOH.

за́втрак

ZAHF-truhk

noun · masculine

breakfast

обе́д

ah-BYEHT

noun · masculine

lunch

у́жин

OO-zhihn

noun · masculine

dinner

я ем

yah yehm

verb · I form

I eat

я пью

yah pyoo

verb · I form

I drink

CORE IDEAS

The story. Vladimir Makovsky liked to paint everyday Russian people. In this painting an old husband and wife sit together in their garden in the afternoon. On the table is a white cloth, a shining samovar, cups and a little bowl of jam. The wife pours the tea. They do not need to say much; they have had tea together like this for many years.

Meals. Russians eat за́втрак (ZAHF-truk) in the morning, обе́д (ah-BYET) in the middle of the day, and у́жин (OO-zheen) in the evening. Обе́д is traditionally the big meal, with soup first. To say “for breakfast”, say на за́втрак.

How Russian works: я ем, я пью. Я ем means I eat and я пью means I drink: На за́втрак я ем ка́шу и пью молоко́. Notice that ка́ша became ка́шу: feminine words ending in -a change to -y when you eat or drink them (they are the object). Хлеб, суп, чай and молоко́ do not change.

PICTURE STUDY



Old People (Tea Party), Vladimir Makovsky, 1881 · Oil on canvas · National Art Museum of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

Makovsky painted many kind, ordinary moments. Look at the samovar, the cups and the faces. This couple has shared thousands of meals.

Look closely

- Find the samovar. What is it for?
- What is the wife doing?
- Where are they sitting?
- What time of day do you think it is?

Talk about it

1. Who do you like to eat with?
2. How can you make a family meal happy?

ACTIVITY

My meal diary

Keep a diary of your meals for three days in Russian.

You will need

- Your notebook
- Colored pencils

Steps

1. Make a chart with three rows: за́втрак, обе́д, у́жин.
2. For three days, write what you eat and drink at each meal, in Russian where you can (draw the rest).
3. Each evening, read your day aloud: На за́втрак я ем … и пью ….
4. Circle your favorite meal of the three days.

Tips

- Look up one new food word each day in Wiktionary.

Check your work

☐ My diary has three days of meals.

☐ I can read it aloud with

я and

ем

я

пь

ю.

RUSSIAN NOTEBOOK

1. In your notebook, write the three meals and one sentence for each: На за́втрак я ем … и пью ….

> **From history.** A Russian обе́д usually starts with soup. Борщ (beet soup) and щи (cabbage soup) are the most famous. There is even a saying: Щи да ка́ша — пи́ща на́ша (cabbage soup and porridge are our food).

> **At home in Russian.** If your student already speaks Russian, add the forms ты ешь, он ест and ты пьёшь, он пьёт, and talk through tomorrow's menu in Russian.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Say what you eat and drink for breakfast: porridge and milk.

▼ **Show solution**

1. For breakfast: на за́втрак.
2. Ка́ша becomes ка́шу after я ем.

Answer: На за́втрак я ем ка́шу и пью молоко́.

Example 2. Say that for dinner you eat soup and drink tea.

▼ **Show solution**

1. For dinner: на у́жин.
2. Суп and чай do not change.

Answer: На у́жин я ем суп и пью чай.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say breakfast in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   За́втрак.

2. Easy Say lunch and dinner in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Обе́д, у́жин.

3. Medium Say I eat bread.

▼ **Show answer**

Я ем хлеб.

4. Medium Say I drink water.

▼ **Show answer**

Я пью во́ду. (Вода́ becomes во́ду.)

5. Medium Say I eat porridge.

▼ **Show answer**

Я ем ка́шу.

6. Hard Say what you ate and drank for lunch today, in two sentences.

▼ **Show answer**

На обе́д я ем … Я пью …. (Any true answer with correct endings.)

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying я ем ка́ша. After я ем, a feminine word in -a changes to -у: я ем ка́шу.
- Saying o-BED with a d. At the end, д sounds like t: ah-BYET.

> **Make it a game · Breakfast, lunch or dinner?.** A parent names a food in Russian (ка́ша, суп, блины́, хлеб, чай). The student says which meal it belongs to and makes a sentence: На за́втрак я ем ка́шу!

> **Scripture.** “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.” (1 Corinthians 10:31, KJV)
>
> Russian Synodal Bible (1876): *Итак, едите ли, пьете ли или иное что делаете, все делайте в славу Божию* Even eating and drinking can be done to the glory of God, with thankful hearts.

UNIT 4 · СЕМЬЯ́ ЗА СТОЛО́М: THE FAMILY TABLE · LESSON 4.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES

4.2 Переда́йте, пожа́луйста…: At the Table

OBJECTIVES

- Name spoon, fork, knife, plate and cup in Russian.
- Ask politely for something at the table.
- Thank someone for a meal.

> **Warm-up.** Set the table for one person. What do you need? Today you learn the Russian names and how to ask for things politely.

WATCH

Learn Russian - Russian Kitchen Vocabulary

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 2:44

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ottClG5eX-4

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; hold up each real item as it is named.

Note: RussianPod101: kitchen vocabulary in Russian — plate, bowl, spoon, fork and knife.

BACKUP VIDEO

Learn Russian with Video - At the Table

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 2:59

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUP0K-CZwpQ

RussianPod101: at the table — hungry, tasty, thirsty, and a family enjoying a festive meal.

KEY TERMS

ло́жка (LOHSH-kuh)
Spoon.

ви́лка (VEEL-kuh)
Fork.

нож (nohsh)
Knife.

таре́лка (tah-RYEHL-kuh)
Plate.

ча́шка (CHAHSH-kuh)

Cup.

Переда́йте, пожа́луйста… (pee-ree-DAHY-tee pah-ZHAH-looys-tuh)

Please pass… (polite).

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Russian is written in Cyrillic. The mark over a vowel (молоко́) shows the stressed syllable, the one said loudest; it is a teaching mark, not part of normal spelling. In the sound guides the stressed syllable is in capitals: mah-lah-KOH.

ло́жка

LOHSH-kuh

noun · feminine

spoon

ви́лка

VEEL-kuh

noun · feminine

fork

нож

nohsh

noun · masculine

knife

таре́лка

tah-RYEHL-kuh

noun · feminine

plate

ча́шка

CHAHSH-kuh

noun · feminine

cup

переда́йте, пожа́луйста

pee-ree-DAHY-tee pah-ZHAH-looys-tuh

phrase · polite

please pass

CORE IDEAS

The story. After Pentecost, the first Christians in Jerusalem met every day. They went to the temple together, and in their homes they broke bread and ate their meals with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God. Sharing a meal was part of loving one another.

How Russian sounds. Ло́жка is LOHSH-kuh, ви́лка is VEEL-kuh, нож is nohsh, таре́лка is tah-RYEL-kuh, and ча́шка is CHAHSH-kuh.

Asking politely. To ask for something to be passed, say Переда́йте, пожа́луйста, хлеб! (to a grown-up or the whole table) or Переда́й, пожа́луйста, хлеб! (to a brother or sister). Feminine words change -a to -y here too: Переда́йте, пожа́луйста, ло́жку. When you are given it, say Спаси́бо! After the meal, Russians thank the cook: Спаси́бо, бы́ло о́чень вку́сно! (Thank you, it was very tasty!)

ACTIVITY

Set a Russian table

Set the table for a family meal with Russian label cards, and use them at the meal.

You will need

- Dishes and silverware
- Folded index cards
- Markers

Steps

1. Make a folded label card for each item: ло́жка, ви́лка, нож, таре́лка, ча́шка, хлеб, вода́.
2. Set the table and stand a card next to each item.
3. At the meal, ask for things only in Russian with пожа́луйста.
4. At the end, thank the cook: Спаси́бо, бы́ло о́чень вку́сно!

Tips

- Make a card for the person who prays before the meal: моли́тва.

Check your work

- ☐ The table is set and labeled.
- ☐ I asked for at least three things in Russian.

RUSSIAN NOTEBOOK

1. In your notebook, draw a place setting and label each item in Russian. Write two polite requests.

> **From history.** Russian families often keep tea going all evening from a samovar or a kettle, and a guest is always offered tea with jam, honey or cookies. Refusing everything can seem impolite, so guests usually accept at least a cup.

> **At home in Russian.** If your student already speaks Russian, add ста́кан (glass), салфе́тка (napkin) and соль (salt), and run a whole family dinner in Russian.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Ask your father politely for a fork.

▼ **Show solution**

1. He is a grown-up at the table; переда́йте is polite (переда́й is fine in a close family).
2. Ви́лка becomes ви́лку.

Answer: Переда́йте, пожа́луйста, ви́лку.

Example 2. Ask your sister to pass the bread.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Use the friendly form for a sister: переда́й.
2. Хлеб does not change.

Answer: Переда́й, пожа́луйста, хлеб.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say spoon and fork in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Ло́жка, ви́лка.

2. Easy Say plate and cup in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Таре́лка, ча́шка.

3. Medium Say knife in Russian.

▼ **Show answer**

Нож.

4. Medium Ask politely for a spoon.

▼ **Show answer**

Переда́йте, пожа́луйста, ло́жку.

5. Medium Thank the cook in Russian.

▼ **Show answer**

Спаси́бо, бы́ло о́чень вку́сно!

6. Hard Ask your brother for a cup, then thank him.

▼ **Show answer**

Переда́й, пожа́луйста, ча́шку. … Спаси́бо!

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying переда́йте ло́жка. The thing passed changes -a to -y: ло́жку.
- Forgetting пожа́луйста. A Russian request always includes it.

> **Make it a game · Polite restaurant.** Play restaurant: one person is the waiter, the others are guests. Guests must order and ask for everything in Russian with пожа́луйста. The waiter only brings things that are asked for correctly!

> **Scripture.** “And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,” (Acts 2:46, KJV)
>
> Russian Synodal Bible (1876): *принимали пищу в веселии и простоте сердца* The first Christians shared their meals with gladness. A happy, thankful family table is a gift from God.

UNIT 5

Пти́цы: Birds and Spring

Lesson 5.1 teaches the names of common birds and the nest, with Savrasov's painting of rooks building nests in early spring.

Lesson 5.2 teaches spring words and simple sentences about birds: Пти́цы прилете́ли. Пти́цы пою́т.

PREREQUISITES

- Units 1–4.

MASTERY CHECKLIST

- ☐ I can name six birds and a nest in Russian.
- ☐ I can say what birds do in spring in simple Russian sentences.
- ☐ I can describe Savrasov's painting in a few words.
- ☐ I can say what Jesus taught about the sparrows.

OPTIONAL BOOKS AND RESOURCES FOR THIS UNIT

- **Wiktionary (Russian entries)**: Free online: every Russian word with its stress, meaning, endings and often a recording by a native speaker.
- **Forvo**: Free pronunciation library: hear any Russian word said by native speakers (link only).

Not required. Every activity in this unit works with paper, pencil, scissors and the free links below. School Launch is independent and free.

LESSONS IN THIS UNIT

5.1	**Грач, воробе́й, ла́сточка, сова́**	3 sessions of 20–30 minutes
5.2	**Весна́: The Birds Have Come Back**	3 sessions of 20–30 minutes

Unit 5 review

Show bird pictures and ask. The test is worth 20 points.

1. **4 pts**
   Name a bird, a sparrow and an owl in Russian.
2. **4 pts**
   Name a rook, a swallow and a nest in Russian.
3. **4 pts**
   Say “the birds have come back” in Russian.
4. **4 pts**
   Say spring and “the birds are singing”.
5. **4 pts**
   What did Jesus say about the sparrows?

ANSWER KEY

1. Пти́ца, воробе́й, сова́.
2. Грач, ла́сточка, гнездо́.
3. Пти́цы прилете́ли.
4. Весна́. Пти́цы пою́т.
5. Not one falls to the ground without the Father; we are worth more than many sparrows.

Printable answer key (PDF, for the parent)

UNIT CHALLENGE: BIRD WATCH JOURNAL

For one or two weeks, watch the birds near your home. Draw the ones you see and label them in Russian, write the date and the weather, and write one Russian sentence each day.

LOOK FOR	WHAT IT MEANS
Speaking	The student names at least five birds in Russian.
Accuracy	The daily sentences are correct.
Product	The journal has at least five dated entries with drawings.
Effort	The student works carefully and joins in cheerfully.

UNIT 5 · ПТИ́ЦЫ: BIRDS AND SPRING · LESSON 5.1 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES

5.1 Грач, воробе́й, ла́сточка, сова́

OBJECTIVES

- Name six birds and a nest in Russian.
- Look closely at The Rooks Have Returned.
- Know that God cares for the smallest bird.

> **Warm-up.** Look out the window or step outside. Can you see or hear a bird? Today you learn bird names in Russian.

WATCH

Learn Russian with Video - Birds

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 2:23

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KjO5qmdqVME

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the story; say each bird's name before the narrator does once you know it.

Note: RussianPod101: birds in Russian with video.

BACKUP VIDEO

Learn Russian with Video - Birds 2

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 2:23

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVmixyjPi9g

RussianPod101: more birds in Russian with video.

KEY TERMS

пти́ца (PTEE-tsuh)
Bird.

воробе́й (vuh-rah-BYEHY)
Sparrow.

сова́ (sah-VAH)
Owl.

грач (grahch)
Rook (a big black bird like a crow).

ла́сточка (LAHS-tuhch-kuh)
Swallow.

гнездо́ (gneez-DOH)
Nest.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Russian is written in Cyrillic. The mark over a vowel (молоко́) shows the stressed syllable, the one said loudest; it is a teaching mark, not part of normal spelling. In the sound guides the stressed syllable is in capitals: mah-lah-KOH.

пти́ца

PTEE-tsuh

noun · feminine

bird

грач

grahch

noun · masculine

rook

воробе́й

vuh-rah-BYEHY

noun · masculine

sparrow

ла́сточка

LAHS-tuhch-kuh

noun · feminine

swallow

сова́

sah-VAH

noun · feminine

owl

гнездо́

gneez-DOH

noun · neuter

nest

CORE IDEAS

The story. In Russia, the first sign of spring is not flowers but birds. The rooks, big black birds, fly back from the south in March, while the snow is still on the ground. In 1871 Alexei Savrasov painted a little village at that moment: the snow is melting, the birch trees are still bare, and the rooks are busy building nests high in the branches. Behind them stands a white church with a bell tower. Russians love this painting so much that every child knows its name: Грачи́ прилете́ли, The Rooks Have Returned.

How Russian sounds. Пти́ца is PTEE-tsuh: say both p and t. Грач is grahch. Воробе́й is vuh-rah-BYAY. Ла́сточка is LAHS-tuch-kuh. Сова́ is sah-VAH. Гнездо́ is gneez-DOH: say the g!

Gender again. Грач and воробе́й are masculine, пти́ца, ла́сточка and сова́ are feminine, and гнездо́ is neuter. So: чёрный грач, ма́ленький воробе́й, бе́лая сова́, большо́е гнездо́.

PICTURE STUDY



The Rooks Have Returned, Alexei Savrasov, 1871 · Oil on canvas · State Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow

Image: Wikimedia Commons, public domain

This painting is small and quiet, but it became the most famous spring painting in Russia. It is all grays, browns and whites, and yet it feels full of hope, because the birds have come back.

Look closely

- Find the rooks. What are they building?
- Is the snow fresh or melting? How can you tell?
- Find the church and its bell tower.
- What kind of trees are these?

Talk about it

1. What is the first sign of spring where you live?
2. Why does this picture feel hopeful?

ACTIVITY

Paper nest

Make a nest with paper strips and paper birds, labeled in Russian.

You will need

- A paper bowl or small basket
- Brown paper strips or yarn
- Glue
- Paper for birds and eggs

Steps

1. Glue brown strips all around the bowl to make a nest.
2. Make two paper birds (rooks or sparrows) and three small eggs.
3. Label: гнездо́, пти́ца, грач or воробе́й.
4. Tell the family in Russian: Э́то гнездо́. Э́то грач.

Tips

- Look up the Russian word for egg (яйцо́) and label the eggs.

Check your work

☐ My nest has birds and labels.

☐ I can name the birds and the nest in Russian.

RUSSIAN NOTEBOOK

1. In your notebook, draw four birds and a nest, and label each in Russian with a color word that matches (чёрный грач, се́рый воробе́й…).

> **From history.** The swallow is a beloved spring bird in Russia. A Russian saying goes: Ла́сточка весну́ начина́ет (the swallow begins the spring). Children in old villages baked bird-shaped buns called жа́воронки (larks) to welcome the birds back.

> **At home in Russian.** If your student already speaks Russian, add соловéй (nightingale), гóлубь (pigeon) and дя́тел (woodpecker), and read a Russian poem about spring birds together.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Name the big black bird that comes back first in spring.

▼ **Show solution**

1. It is the rook.
2. Rook is грач.

Answer: Грач.

Example 2. Say “a small gray sparrow”.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Воробéй is masculine.
2. Masculine endings: мáленький, сéрый.

Answer: Мáленький сéрый воробéй.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say bird in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Птúца.

2. Easy Say owl in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Совá.

3. Medium Say sparrow and swallow in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Воробéй, лáсточка.

4. Medium Say nest in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Гнездо́.

5. Medium Say “a black rook”.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Чёрный грач.

6. Hard Describe Savrasov’s painting in three short Russian phrases.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   For example: Весна́. Чёрные грачи́. Бе́лая це́рковь. (Any reasonable phrases.)

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying tee-tsa without the p. Say both: PTEE-tsuh.
- Saying vo-RO-bey. The loud part is at the end: vuh-rah-BYAY.

> **Make it a game · Bird bingo.** Make bingo cards with pictures of the six birds and the nest. A parent calls the Russian words; the student marks them. Bingo is called in Russian: Гнездо́!

> **Scripture.** “Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.” (Matthew 10:29, KJV)
>
> Russian Synodal Bible (1876): *Не две ли малые птицы продаются за ассарий? И ни одна из них не упадет на землю без воли Отца вашего* Sparrows were cheap, but not one falls without God knowing. Jesus said we are worth more than many sparrows.

UNIT 5 · ПТИ́ЦЫ: BIRDS AND SPRING · LESSON 5.2 OF 10 · 3 SESSIONS OF 20–30 MINUTES

5.2 Весна́: The Birds Have Come Back

OBJECTIVES

- Name spring and its signs in Russian.
- Say simple sentences about birds: Пти́цы прилете́ли. Пти́цы пою́т.
- Know the Bible verse about the time of singing.

> **Warm-up.** Name the birds from Lesson 5.1 in Russian. When do they sing the most? Today you learn to talk about spring.

WATCH

Weekly Russian Words with Katya - Birds

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 2:06

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9kxitk9uHXE

> **WHEN TO WATCH**
> after the core ideas; say a sentence about each bird after it is named: Э́то воробе́й. Воробе́й поёт.

Note: RussianPod101: Katya teaches bird words in Russian, for review.

BACKUP VIDEO

Weekly Russian Words with Katya - Weather

Learn Russian with RussianPod101.com · 3:11

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y5qwyeRseoU

RussianPod101: Katya teaches weather words in Russian (for spring weather).

KEY TERMS

весна́ (vees-NAH)
Spring.

пою́т / поёт (pah-YOOT pah-YOHT)
They sing / it sings.

тепло́ (teep-LOH)
It's warm.

Пти́цы прилете́ли. (PTEE-tsih pree-lee-TYEH-lee)
The birds have come back (flown in).

цветы́ (tsvee-TIH)
Flowers.

VOCABULARY FOR THE WEEK

Russian is written in Cyrillic. The mark over a vowel (молоко́) shows the stressed syllable, the one said loudest; it is a teaching mark, not part of normal spelling. In the sound guides the stressed syllable is in capitals: mah-lah-KOH.

весна́

vees-NAH

noun · feminine

spring

прилете́ли

pree-lee-TYEH-lee

verb · past, plural

have flown in, have come back

поёт

pah-YOHT

verb · it form

sings

пою́т

pah-YOOT

verb · they form

they sing

цветы́

tsvee-TIH

noun · plural

flowers

CORE IDEAS

The story. In the Song of Solomon, spring comes after a long winter: For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come. Every spring, when the birds come back and the flowers open, God shows us again that He makes all things new.

Spring words. Весна́ (vees-NAH) is spring. When spring comes, Russians say Пришла́ весна́! (Spring has come!). The snow melts, it is тепло́ (warm), the цветы́ (flowers) come up, and пти́цы прилете́ли (the birds have come back).

How Russian works: one bird, many birds. One bird sings: Пти́ца поёт. Many birds sing: Пти́цы пою́т. The verb changes for one or many. The plural of many nouns ends in -ы or -и: пти́ца → пти́цы, грач → грачи́, ла́сточка → ла́сточки.

ACTIVITY

Spring window

Decorate a window or a poster with spring birds and flowers and Russian sentences.

You will need

- Paper
- Crayons or paint
- Tape

Steps

1. Draw and cut out birds, flowers and a sun.
2. Tape them in a window or on a poster.
3. Write three Russian sentences on strips: Пришла́ весна́! Пти́цы прилете́ли. Пти́цы пою́т.
4. Read your window aloud to the family.

Tips

- Add a nest with eggs.

Check your work

- ☐ My spring window has birds, flowers and three sentences.
- ☐ I can read my sentences aloud.

RUSSIAN NOTEBOOK

1. In your notebook, write four sentences about spring: Пришла́ весна́. Тепло́. Пти́цы прилете́ли. Пти́цы пою́т. Draw a picture to go with them.

> **From history.** Every Russian schoolchild learns spring poems by heart, such as Fyodor Tyutchev's "Spring Waters" (Весе́нние во́ды), in which the melting streams run through the fields shouting that spring is coming.

> **At home in Russian.** If your student already speaks Russian, read Tyutchev's "Весе́нние во́ды" together and learn the first stanza by heart.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Say: One sparrow sings. Many sparrows sing.

▼ **Show solution**

1. One: воробе́й поёт.
2. Many: воробьи́ пою́т.

Answer: Воробе́й поёт. Воробьи́ пою́т.

Example 2. It is April and the rooks are back. Say it in two sentences.

▼ **Show solution**

1. Spring has come: Пришла́ весна́.
2. The rooks have come back: Грачи́ прилете́ли.

Answer: Пришла́ весна́. Грачи́ прилете́ли.

PRACTICE

1. Easy Say spring in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Весна́.

2. Easy Say flowers in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Цветы́.

3. Medium Say "the birds have come back".

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Пти́цы прилете́ли.

4. **Medium** Say “a bird sings” and “birds sing”.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Пти́ца поёт. Пти́цы пою́т.

5. **Medium** Make грач plural.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   Грачи́.

6. **Hard** Write three sentences describing a spring day in Russian.

   ▼ **Show answer**

   For example: Пришла́ весна́. Тепло́. Пти́цы пою́т.

COMMON MISTAKES

- Saying пти́цы поёт. With many birds, use пою́т.
- Saying VES-na. The loud part is at the end: vees-NAH.

> **Make it a game · One or many?.** A parent says a sentence about one bird (Пти́ца поёт). The student changes it to many (Пти́цы пою́т), and then the other way around. Try грач, ла́сточка and сова́ too.

> **Scripture.** “The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land;” (Song of Solomon 2:12, KJV)
>
> Russian Synodal Bible (1876): *цветы показались на земле; время пения настало*
> After winter comes spring, with flowers and singing birds. God makes all things new.