

## Break the Ice: Mini-Forschung und Mini-Präsentationen

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Coming off of two COVID years, my AP German students were as skeptical as ever that it really would be alright if they just "went for it" when it comes to German production and "embraced the mistakes". As you can imagine, it was a hard sell.

After the recent cut of the 8th grade foreign language programs in our district, our German program at Normal West is now a 4-year program.

So, here's what I came up with that really seemed to work

After beginning our Schule und Bildung chapter, I decided to approach each subtopic by asking students to participate in a "Mini-Forschung" on one slide.

Approximately 30 minutes of the class period were devoted to students finding a school (Hauptschule, Realschule, Gymnasium, Gesamtschule) and investingating the topic that was just introduced.

Mini-Forschungen included the following topics: AGs, Wandertage, Klassenfahrten. Each student chose a Bundesland to avoid overlap, and presented on their findings as a warm-up the following day.

Students seemed relaxed and ready to give their "Mini-Präsentation", used only German, and understood each other's information.

For larger classes, include Austrian Bundesländer or Swiss Kantonen.

Have that pre-COVID momentum back?

Offer your students the National German Exam!



## Join Us:

Stammtisch @ Riggs October 1st: 3-5PM

General Meeting on Zoom October 22nd: 7PM