

saber vs. conocer (to know)

Both verbs mean 'to know' but are used differently.

Saber = to know how to do something (+infinitive verb ex: nadar)

*to know information/facts/school subjects etc.

Examples:

"I know how to swim." "She knows her multiplication facts." "Do you know what time you have to be at practice?"

Yo sé nadar.

Conocer = to know/to be familiar with someone or something, to know a person or to know a place

Examples:

"I know Pittsburgh very well, my sister lives there and we visit often."

"Do you know Mr. Ritter?" In Spanish we use "a" before the person.

¿Conoces a Sr. Ritter?

Here are the forms of each verb. The **yo** forms are very irregular!

Saber

yo sé nosotros sabemos

tú sabes vosotros sabéis

ella sabe ellas saben

Conocer (a+ person)

yo conozco nosotros conocemos

tú conoces vosotros conocéis

ella conoce ellas conocen