

# Bilingual Language Development

Children are highly capable of learning more than one language. In fact, bilingualism has certain advantages.



## SPEAK FROM EXPERIENCE

Babies are born ready to learn language. This makes early childhood a key time to support dual language learning. As we age, it becomes harder to learn a second language.

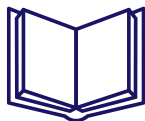


### TRY THIS!

Talk with your child in your home language. Sharing your language with your child gives them high-quality language experiences. These interactions build a strong foundation for later language learning.

## QUALITY TIME

Language is the product of our experiences. Children learn language best through interactions with other people. This is true whether children are learning one or more languages.



### TRY THIS!

Read books, play word games, and sing songs with your child. Use your home language during these activities. After you are done, do it again! Repetition helps children learn by reinforcing words and word patterns.

## BE FLEXIBLE

Bilingualism is linked to some advantages, like flexible thinking skills. Everyone can improve their flexible thinking, but bilingual experiences provide natural practice.



### TRY THIS!

Play sorting games with your child. Use items you can find around the house! First, sort a set of objects by color. Then, change the rules! Now, sort by shape or size. Switching between rules practices flexible thinking.

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