

Talk to your child in your own language

The best way to help your child learn to talk is to talk to him as much as possible in your own language – it doesn't have to be English. That way, your child will learn to talk confidently, and will be ready to learn English when he hears it.

- Talk to your child in your own language. Do not feel under pressure to speak English to your child.
- Have fun with rhymes, poems and songs in your own language.
- Tell your child stories in your own language. Encourage your child to join in with the storytelling.
- Try to find books for your child written in your own language, or try making your own.
- Encourage your child to play with children who speak the same language as he does.
- Don't allow anyone to laugh or tease your child because of his accent or if he makes mistakes.
- Talk to your child in your own language about what he did at playgroup, nursery or school.

Information about bilingualism

Facts

- Bilingual speakers are in the majority in the world.
- Learning two or more languages can be beneficial to a child's overall language and learning abilities.
- Research shows that bilingualism in a child or adult is an advantage.
- It is normal for bilingual speakers to mix their two languages in one sentence.