Learning More than One Language

Your child may be hearing or communicating in more than one language.

Growing up to be bilingual means she can understand or communicate in more than one language.

Hearing Your Child’s Speech or

Bilingual children are no more likely to have delays than other children.

Knowing two languages doesn’t mean your child is deaf. If two languages are spoken in your home, your child will naturally learn both. Sometimes older relatives can get confused when she plays with friends or goes to school.

The goal is to learn both languages.

Your goals for your child

- But if you think your child’s speech or
  language isn’t developing well, you might need to help.

- Your child’s age is important because children learn language at different rates. You are the best person to help your child learn language.

- You can help your child learn language by:
  - Speaking to your child in your native language.
  - TEACHING YOUR CHILD LANGUAGE
  - Applauding your child when she says things in words she uses.
  - Teaching your child to speak.
  - Encouraging her to speak more sentences.
  - Encouraging her to read books.
  - Reading to your child.
  - Singing to your child.

- Bilingual children often develop language delays because they are learning both languages at the same time.

- Bilingual children can communicate in two languages if you encourage them to speak both languages.

- Bilingual children are no more likely to have delays than other children.

- To help your child develop language skills, you can:
  - Speak to your child in your native language.
  - Read books to your child.
  - Sing songs to your child.

- Encourage your child to speak in two languages.

- Your child will naturally learn both languages.

- Your child will naturally learn both languages if you encourage her to speak in both languages.

- Encourage your child to use both languages.

- Encourage your child to speak in both languages.

- Encourage your child to write in both languages.

- Encourage your child to read in both languages.

- Speak to your child in both languages.

- Read books to your child in both languages.

- Sing songs to your child in both languages.

- Encourage your child to speak in both languages.

- Encourage your child to write in both languages.

- Encourage your child to read in both languages.

- Your child will naturally learn both languages if you encourage her to use both languages.

- Your child will naturally learn both languages if you encourage her to write in both languages.

- Your child will naturally learn both languages if you encourage her to read in both languages.

- Your child will naturally learn both languages if you encourage her to speak in both languages.

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Reflection

Take time to think about your child.

What are some challenges to your child’s ability to communicate in more than one language?

What are some of your main goals for your child in your home?

What resources do you already have?

Who else could help you?

What are some challenges to your development?

goals?