

Speak to children in your native language!

- A child starts learning a language immediately after birth when they hear parents speaking.
- It is important that the parents speak to their child in their own native language.

If the parents speak different languages, both should **always** speak to the child using their own native language.

- Speaking with your native language best facilitates emotional contacts with your child.
- A good level of native language is the basis for all learning. The parents must teach their child their own native language – not Finnish or other language. Children will learn Finnish in day care and at school.
- Play with your child: speak to them and listen to their answers.

* Give a name to things: "It is a spoon."

* Speak about things, in which the child is interested.

* Don't correct the child's speaking but give them a good pattern of speaking:

The child says: "Ca..."

The adult says: "There is a big car driving."

- Say nursery rhymes and sing to the child in your native language. Children enjoy rhythm.
- Look together at books: talk about the pictures. Children learn new words from books.
- Videos and computer games alone do not develop children's language.



Bilingualism is a valuable thing to the child and worth of supporting!