

## 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.

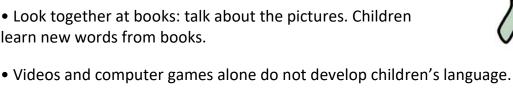
If the parents speak different languages, both should always speak to the child using their own native language.

- 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.
- learn new words from books.





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