

What you as a *parent* need to know about being multilingual

Age 0–6

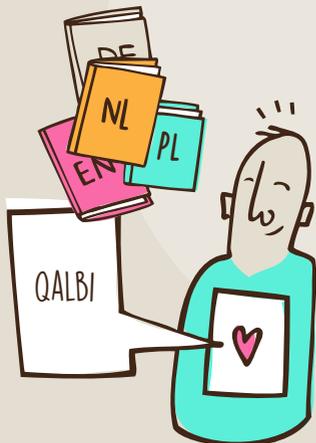


de Bibliotheek

1

Your role in language development

You play the most important role in your child's development of language and are the most important example, because your child imitates you in everything you do. Set a good example by talking a lot and reading on a daily basis. In this way, your child learns more and more words through play.



2

The language of your heart

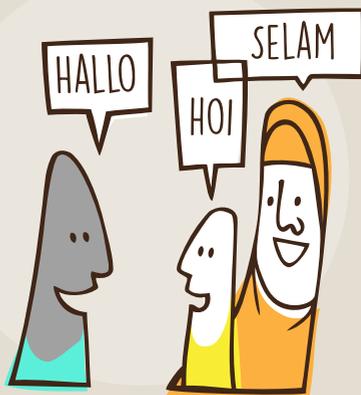
Talk a lot with your child in the language you know, understand and speak best, even if it is not Dutch. By talking often, your child will learn a lot of words. The more extensive his/her vocabulary, the easier it will be for your child to learn another language. Read to your child in the language you know best. Talking, telling stories and reading to your child will then be much more enjoyable and he/she will learn more as a result. This will also make it easier to learn Dutch.

Tips on how to use language with your child can be found on the website www.taalbeginthuis.nl

3

How then does your child learn Dutch?

In addition to your own language, you can expose your child to Dutch by watching Dutch-language films or television, listening to (audio) books and arranging Dutch-language childcare.



4

Multilingualism is an asset



- Your brain remains agile by switching between different languages.
- On average, multilingual children are better at concentrating and can switch more quickly.
- Multilingual children acquire reading skills more quickly: they can more easily convert letters into sounds.
- Multilingual children are faster at learning other languages.
- Multilingual children often learn more from different cultures.

5

Misunderstandings about multilingualism

There are no disadvantages associated with your child speaking more languages in terms of his/her development of language. But not everyone knows that. To provide information to teachers and people around you, point them to the website www.meertalig.nl



6

Would you like to find out more about multilingual education?



Multilingual education. Your child will thank you - Marinella Orioni. Published by Van Genneep, 2015
Kletsheads - The podcast about multilingual children for parents - teaching staff and speech therapists:
www.kletsheadspodcast.nl