

OUR MULTILINGUAL CHILD

Family language strategy and the child's language development

1 to 2 years

Our multilingual strategy

You have decided what language each of you is going to use with your child. Is it working?
Did you have to adapt your approach?
Do you have any concerns or questions?

Write down your answers.



The first words

Around the age of one, children usually start producing their first words - this applies to multilingual children too.

Write down the words your child can say in each language. (L = language)

Our child says	
L1:	
L2:	
L3:	

word of advice

Keep stimulating all the languages and be patient. If you have concerns, contact your pediatrician.



Understanding

Between the age of one and two, your child will understand simple tasks and questions.

Tick off the things your child can do in each language. (L = language)

Responding with a word or gesture to questions and instructions such as	L1:	L2:	L3:
Where is something (e.g. the ball)?			
Yes/no questions (e.g. Do you want water?)			
Instructions (e.g. Give me or Wave to Daddy)			

word of advice

Find a playmate for your child who is also acquiring the same home language.



From an early age, books are an ideal aid to support multilingual acquisition. Read to your child regularly, point to pictures and ask your child simple questions about them. If you do not have access to books in your language, borrow books in any language from a library and tell them a story based on the pictures. You can also use digital books.

