





Ideas for parents and families



Parents as Partners: Ways to support your child in their language learning

Activity	Suggested timeframe	Description
 Suitable for younger learners Counting fun	5 mins	Find opportunities to count with your child in the language they are learning. You can practice anywhere - in the car, on the way to school or in a supermarket queue. Can you practise the colours of the objects you find?
Learn a new song from around the world	15 mins+	Learn a traditional song from another country. Find simple rhymes and counting song in the language your child is learning. Can they teach you a song or rhyme they already know?
 Suitable for all ages and stages Making Picture Books	15 mins+	With your child make picture books without any written words. These can be imaginative stories or based on real events. Take in turns with your child to tell the story in your home language.
Library Visit	Ongoing	Go to your local library and explore which children's books are available in different languages. Choose a book in to read together in any language you are interested in or know.



Suitable for all ages and stages

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Let's get cooking	1 hour + preparation and planning	At the supermarket, look for products in other languages and from other countries. Where do your favourite foods come from? Have some fun in the kitchen and create a dish from another country. Watch the French version of Bake Off on You tube: le Meilleur Pâtissier
Movie night	2-3 hours	Get the popcorn at the ready! Why not watch a film or tv programme in a foreign language? Many can be found on streaming channels such as Netflix. There are also lots of foreign language YouTubers for all ages and the speed/subtitles can be changed to suit learners.
Let's read	Over several days or weeks	Why not explore books in other languages? Have a browse through The International Children's Digital Library , Global Storybooks , MagicBlox or Children's Books Online where you will find a wealth of reading materials. in different languages at different levels.
It's good to talk!	Languages Week Scotland	Share your child's language learning in family life and in everyday situations. For Languages Week try to practise familiar phrases in the language your child is learning at school.
Language learning together with Duolingo	Over several days or weeks	This activity can be completed as a family where all family members learn a language together. It's free to sign up and easy to use. A simple chart to record the scores for all participants will need to be prepared. Have fun!

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 <p>Suitable for all ages and stages</p> <p>Learn a tongue twister</p>	5 mins	<p>Have fun with tongue twisters in different languages. Saying tongue twisters can be difficult at first, so don't worry if you can't do it very well to begin with. Just keep practising and have fun!</p>
Scavenger hunt	1 hour+	<p>Give your children a list of items to find. The items must be in the other language. Use an online dictionary to help source the words e.g. www.wordreference.com. Once you have the list, give the children a set time to find the items in the house. They might need some help with using the online dictionary.</p>
Make a zine	Ongoing	<p>Languages are all around us and there are many words used in English that are borrowed from elsewhere e.g pizza or croissant. This activity allows you to look for words from various languages and record them in your zine. Food packaging is a great source of vocabulary, as are store magazines, signs or even just noting some of your favourite words in a different language. You'll be amazed at what you will find.</p>
 <p>Suitable for upper primary</p> <p>Social media</p>	Over several days or weeks	<p>Connect with your family's favourite European sportsperson or team on social media. Follow the sporting action on Facebook or tweet messages of support to your team and learn at the same time.</p>

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Technology to help you learn	Over several days or weeks	Switch the settings on a mobile phone, games console or mobile device to the language your child is learning. Which words do you know? Can you guess some of the others? Ask questions to the digital voice assistant (Siri/Google) in another language.
Change your listening habits	Over several days or weeks	Listen to favourite Disney songs in different languages. Listen to the best current European music on Youtube.
Word map	1 hour	This is an association game that you can play with your child or children. Start by writing a word in any language in the middle of a sheet of paper. Then branch out with words in the different languages they know that they associate with it. Once they are finished, they can create a multilingual story using some of the words they have shared.
Learning together	Over several weeks or months	If you want to continue learning a language, there are lots of free online resources to get you started such as BBC Languages , Radio Lingua free podcasts or Duolingo .



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