



## Language Immersion Programs FAQ

### When should my child start learning a new language?

It is never too early to begin learning a language: it's fun, it promotes healthy development, and the many cognitive and social benefits will last a lifetime. Children who learn another language before age five use the same part of the brain to acquire that second language that they use to learn their mother tongue. Younger learners are also uninhibited by the fear of making mistakes, which is sometimes an obstacle for older beginners.

### Why learn a new language? Would my child get confused?

Learning a new language puts your child at a significant advantage, academically and socially. Contrary to popular belief, young children are not confused by the introduction of multiple languages at the same time. Not only do they naturally navigate multilingual environments, but acquiring a second language early in life primes the brain to learn multiple other languages, opening a world of opportunities for later on.

### What are the benefits of learning a new language?

Learning a second and third language helps with academic and social success. Adventures in Learning full immersion programs focus on the direct positive correlation to cognitive development. The cognitive benefits of learning a language have an immediate impact on a child's academic achievement; research shows that learning a second language boosts problem-solving, critical thinking, and listening skills, in addition to improving memory, concentration, and the ability to multitask. Children proficient in other languages also show signs of enhanced creativity and mental flexibility.

Children who are exposed early to other languages display more positive attitudes to the cultures associated with those languages. The experience of learning a language introduces them to the world in ways they might otherwise have not experienced.

### What can I expect in language class?

Every child is different. Every child learns at their own pace. Children may choose to participate in the activity at hand or to watch. Both choices are positive choices. Research shows that even if the children seem not to focus on any given day, they are soaking up the new language and skills.

### References and more information in language learning

American Council on the teaching of foreign languages

<https://www.actfl.org/advocacy/what-the-research-shows>

The Cognitive Benefits of Being Bilingual

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3583091/>

The Benefits of Learning a Second Language Early

<https://www.oxfordclil.es/the-benefits-of-learning-a-second-language-early/>

