

Keeping your home language alive

Have fun with your child by sharing books, stories and rhymes in your home language

You will be helping your child to develop:

- Early communication and language skills
- A clear sense of their social and cultural identity
- An ability to learn an additional language i.e. English

Tips for dual language story-sharing

- Share books with your child. Talk about the pictures and what is happening in the story
- Give your child lots of eye contact, smiles and encourage them to join in
- Make time every day to cuddle up with your child and share stories, books and rhymes
- Switch off your TV, radio or mobile phone so there are no distractions and you can spend quality time together
- Your child may use English words – you can still reply or repeat what they have said in your own language
- Sing nursery rhymes and songs together; this will help your child learn how to talk, listen and learn new words.
- Sharing rhymes together will give your child the confidence to become a good reader and storyteller
- Share traditional rhymes from your home language
- Visit your local library to look for books in your home language and dual language story books.
- Use picture books to tell stories in your home language.