

# A Resource for Families | Benefits of Bilingualism and Supporting Home Language Development for Children in Transitional Kindergarten (TK)

Did you know that there are [many benefits of bilingualism](#)?

Research has proven that the strongest foundation for academic success and high levels of literacy for multilingual TK students is the development of both their home language and English.



A family's **home language is a gift you can give your child**. Speaking two (or more) languages helps maintain connection and identity in your family.

- [Video: Bilingualism - Through the Eyes of Families](#) shows why supporting bilingualism is so important.
- [Strategy Overview: Promoting a Sense of Identity](#) is another resource that explains how language and culture and identity are all connected.

**Development of the home language plays an important role in your child's English language development.** Children need support in all of their languages! To learn more about connections across languages, watch these two videos:

- [Video: Home language as a Foundation for English Language Development](#)
- [Video: Encourage Use of Home Language at Home and PreK](#)



There are many **resources and strategies to help you know how to support your child's home language**.

- **Reading in your home language.** [Guide: How to Use Bilingual Books](#) is written for teachers, but offers ideas to families too!
- **Home-based learning activities** are fun and engaging ways to practice language at home. Look for ideas in these resources:
  - [Website: Supporting Young English Learners at Home](#)
  - [Strategy Overview: Math Activities/Actividades for Families](#)
  - [Website: Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors](#)
  - [Website: Ready Rosie](#)
  - [Video: Helping with Homework](#)
- Help your child **practice oral language**. This flyer, [How Families Can Develop Oral Language](#), has some great suggestions.
- This [bilingual overview for families](#) provides recommendations on what you can do to support your child in learning and language development this year.

