



WORLD LANGUAGES

How you can support your child language learning at home?

You don't have to understand the language your student is learning to boost his/her language skills.

Here is what you can do to support language classes and language learning at home.

1. Help your child make time to practice. Learning a language is like learning to play an instrument or a sport. There needs to be time to practice on a consistent basis.
2. Have your student teach you to say something in the language he/she is learning every day. Explaining is learning. Let your student laugh at your mangled pronunciation and correct you. Teaching someone how to do something boost confidence.
3. Find cultural events connected to the language and culture being studied. Students do better when they develop a personal connection with the language.
4. Ask your teacher for resources your child can use at home.
5. Provide videos, books and music in the language. Ask your teacher for suggestions to make sure the resources are appropriate for young learners.
6. Look for opportunities outside the classroom to learn your specific language. For example: summer language camps, or consider hosting a foreign exchange student.
7. Be an advocate for early language learning. Ask about plans to provide continuous language learning opportunities for students starting in elementary school.

The American Council on the teaching of foreign Languages offers many tips for parent/ or guardian who wants to advocate for language programs.