



Lockdown Lingo:

Top Tips For Supporting Your Child With Languages At Home

Why is my child learning languages?

Learning other languages supports your child's learning in many different ways - literacy, problem solving, communication skills are just a few. Learning other languages helps your child make connections with different people and their cultures and so increase their enjoyment and understanding of their own and other cultures. The ability to use different languages will allow your child to understand and communicate socially and in the world of work.

How can I support my child?

- Encourage your child to have fun with languages, try some of the activities below.
- Ask your child to teach you what s/he has learned in school.
- Have a go together - try some fun activities as a family.
- Don't be afraid to make mistakes, that's part of learning.
- Include some fun activities in your everyday routines - mealtimes, daily walk and games.



Here are a few fun activities to get you started. We'll be back with more soon.

1. Words from other languages:



- Can you find words in your first language that come from other languages while you are reading or watching TV?
- Can you find words that come from other languages used in advertising and/or packaging in your cupboards?

2. Meal Time challenges:

- Can you find out how to say the food you are eating in a language your child is learning?
- Can you label the foods needed to make a meal in the language your child is learning?

3. Family Games:



- **Bust-a-move:** - Dance like no-one is watching! Be creative, be silly and be as carefree as you can. You can use music in the language your child is learning, or you can choose to use well-known songs such as the Hokey Cokey or Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes.



These teach instructions and the name of body parts; mano, pié, cabeza, dedo, boca, etc.

- **Lip Reading challenge:** One member of the family wears headphones and listens to music whilst someone else says a word in the target language i.e. paella, lasagne, Bolognese, bratwurst, etc. The person wearing the headphones has to guess the word said.
- **Scavenger hunt:** Find as many colours as you can during a socially distanced walk or in the garden. Before leaving the house or going into the garden revise six colours in a foreign language (you could do more depending on how confident your child seems). Once out on your walk, look for items with those colours and take a photograph of the things you see e.g. flowers, cars, signs, bridges, trees, animals, etc. Say the colour when you find the item and when you get back home by pointing at the pictures taken. As an extension, you could ask your child to look for the meaning of the items in the dictionary and say the name of the item plus the colour in the target language e.g. the red flower.



- **House numbers:** Practise the numbers from zero to nine in the language your child is learning. (You can count higher if your child is more confident with the numbers.) While you are out on your socially distanced daily walk look at the house numbers you pass and say them in the target language. i.e. 28 = two eight, 103= one, zero, three. As an extension, you could also take a picture of the number with your mobile and write the numbers in full when you get back home. This activity can also be done with vehicle licence plates, shopping receipts, etc.

Share your activities with class teachers in the usual ways, but we'd love to see some of them too. [Share them with us on Twitter using @CEC1plus2](#). Enjoy!

Best wishes, your 1+2 Languages Team



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