

Read-aloud

In any language, a child has to learn a lot of words. Books give you a chance to discover new words and things together and talk about them. Children learn a lot through repetition. Books are ideal for a lot of repetition. You can borrow books at the library for free. You can use picture books in your own language. Picture books are a first step for your child to enjoy reading in Dutch later on. When do you read aloud?



On-the-go

Children like to go out. It doesn't always have to be something special: going to the park or the shop together can be quite fun. You can also plan something extra once in a while. Go to the theatre or the movies together. Libraries host (multilingual) read-alouds. Check out organised activities in your neighbourhood. Again, you have a lot to talk about together. Is your child going to an activity in Dutch? Then talk about it together afterwards in your own language. When do you go out with your child?



Playing together

Children often play together and as parents we concentrate on household chores. But even as a parent, you can play together with your child. You can join the child's imagination, draw together or play a board game. Even older children like to do this and this way you also work on a strong bond. The child will experience the home language as pleasant, as something that connects you in a nice way. **Do you reserve moments to play?**



Talk

A child learns words and sentences but, above all, needs to learn to hold conversations. To talk to someone, you have to listen carefully to what the other person is saying and then you can answer or ask a question yourself. At school, there is a lot of talking. You can help your child by having lots of conversations in the home language too. This can be done throughout the day. Give your full attention regularly to speak to your child. **Do you plan talking moments?**



Contact with others

A child does not just learn to talk to mum and dad. It's important that the child can also use the language spoken at home with others. Family and friends can play an important role here. For the home language AND the school language, children also need other children to practise the language. They enjoy this and so will be more motivated to learn the language. What are important contact moments for your child in the home language? And in Dutch?