

# Ten tips for using your language at home

- 1 **Speak** your language or languages as much as possible, and encourage everyone in your family to speak as much as they can.
- 2 **Tell** your traditional stories, rhymes, poems and sayings to your children. Talk to them about your family, culture, and history.
- 3 **Write** to family or friends with your children in your language - cards, letters, emails, texts or social media - and plan visits to them if possible.
- 4 **Read** books together every day. Point to the pictures, read all or some words, and perhaps use bilingual books as well.
- 5 **Watch** programmes or movies in your language on television, from the library, or online. Perhaps choose ones with English subtitles.
- 6 **Help** your children with homework in your language from their school, club, church, temple, or mosque.
- 7 **Sing** songs with your children in your language.
- 8 **Have fun!** Play music and traditional games in your language.
- 9 **Put up** posters, alphabets, or charts in your language.
- 10 **Explain** that your children can be strong in two or more languages and cultures at the same time.



## Remember:

- Using your language or languages at home will help your children succeed at school, and in their future work.
- It's OK for your children to mix their languages.
- It's OK to ask for help from family, friends or teachers if your children don't want to use your language.
- It's easier in a group. Join community activities, or find or start a language playgroup, culture group, school or club locally (or online).

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