

Important addresses and information centers

- Pediatricians
- Speech and language therapists
www.logopaedie-gr.ch
- Graubünden curative education service
www.hpd-gr.ch
- Parent and family counselling

Created with the kind permission of the Health Service of the City of Bern, adapted by the professional association of Graubünden speech therapists (BBL) on the occasion of Speech Therapy Day 2024.

This flyer can be downloaded online in different languages:



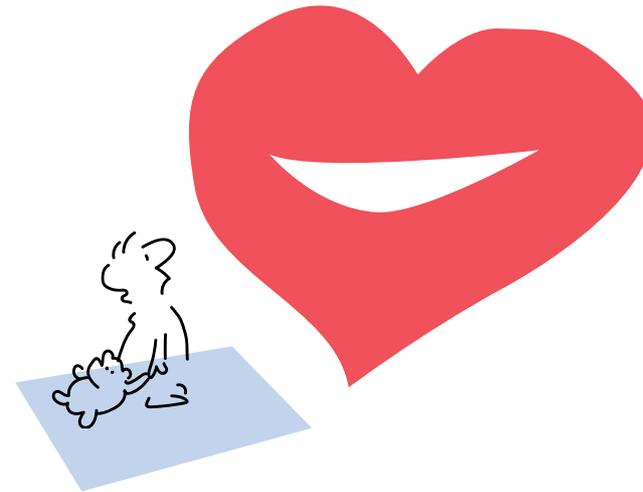
(German, Rumantsch Grischun, Surmiran, Italian, English)



(Albanian, Arabic, Bosnian/Croatian, French, Portuguese, Serbian, Somali, Spanish, Tamil, Turkish)

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Your mother tongue = the language of your heart



Which language shall I speak with my child?

Your first language = The language of your heart

- Multilingualism = opportunity. The degree of success in speaking a second language depends on how well you speak and understand your first language.
- Speak to your child in the language you feel most confident in and comfortable with.
- In cases where parents speak different languages, each parent should speak in their own first language to their children.
- **Telling stories, reciting comforting verses and singing lullabies to your child is a good way to communicate about your culture in your own language.**

Furthermore, it is important that you get acquainted with the language that is spoken in the place you live. It is recommended to create contacts for your child with children that speak the language commonly spoken in your area.



Language development

In the first year

a child reacts to hearing his/her name and keeps eye-contact, babbles and imitates sounds.

At the age of 2

most children are able to understand everyday situation-dependent requests, and speak some words.

At the age of 3

a child asks questions, "what/who is that, what is this?" and is able to produce most sounds.

At the age of 4.

your child makes short sentences and asks "Why?"- questions. Furthermore is able to understand short stories, and remembers songs and verses.

At the age of 5/6 (kindergarten age)

most children are able to speak in a way that is understandable to people outside of the family and are able to talk about feelings and needs.

If your child does not complete these steps of language development, ...
If you are concerned about your child's language skills, ...
If your child stutters or has a hoarse voice for a longer period of time, ...
then it is important to seek an expert's advice.