

5 Tips for Learning a Foreign Language at Home

1. Consistency is Key

Just as you would with other subjects, determine which days and times will be for foreign language lessons.

2. Be Realistic

Set aside an amount of time that you know will work with your schedule. It is more important that you stick to your schedule than the quantity of time you allocate. We suggest foreign language lessons are done two or three times a week, but the most important is figuring out a schedule that works for your family.

3. Work at a Gradual Pace

Repetition is critical when learning a language. Children learn at different speeds, so feel free to adjust the pace for your students, but err on the side of moving slowly. Our motto for learning is "Slow and Steady Wins the Race." Kids have the benefit of time. As long as you are consistent, they will learn.

4. Learn With Your Children

Learning along with your children sends a valuable message that you think learning a language is worthwhile. And children will love it when they learn faster than Mom and Dad!

5. Commit

Make a commitment to treat a foreign language the same way you treat other subjects. Before starting, it is important that you decide that learning a foreign language is a valuable skill that you want your child to have. If you approach foreign language as an enrichment activity rather than a core subject, your child will pick up on that and may not take it seriously, wanting to give up as soon as it becomes difficult or less interesting. Just as you would not allow your child to quit math or English because it was hard or your child complained or didn't want to do it, it is important to have the same attitude here. If the message is conveyed that learning a foreign language is just as important as math and science, children are much more likely to value language learning as well.

