

## Did you know...



Reading books together can open up the door to new countries, new foods, new traditions, and new languages. Explore the world while sitting on your couch. Read as a family!

If your home language is not English, it is important to speak, read, and sing to your child in the language you speak at home. If children learn the basics of speech in the language of their home, it makes it easier to learn English as they grow older. It is important that the culture of your native country is maintained in your home. Children may switch words from both languages for a while, but they will soon sort it out.

If your home language is English, consider teaching your child some simple words in sign language or another language you want to try. It is easier to learn a language when you are a young child than as an adult, and it will help them in this very diverse world we live in.

## Here's how...

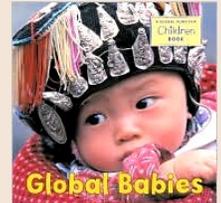


- ❖ Check out books from the library that use phrases from different languages, such as *Say Hello!* by Rachel Isadora.
- ❖ Learn more about your family history and start a new tradition from a country that your family is from. Example: make German pancakes for dinner one night.
- ❖ Listen to music from a different country and dance to it with your baby.
- ❖ Check with your library to see if they are doing a Día de los niños (Children's Day) activity this month.

## Read



### **Global Babies/ Bebes del mundo, by Maya Ajmera (Global Fund for Children)**



Young children love to look at baby faces, and this bilingual book celebrates children from all over the world.

The Global Fund for Children supports programs that help needy children worldwide. Here are more Global Fund for Children board books:



[www.globalfundforchildren.org](http://www.globalfundforchildren.org)

## Choosing Books



### **Celebrating Children and Diversity:**



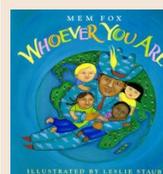
*Fiesta Babies*, by Carmen Tafolla

*Rin, Rin, Rin/ Do, Re, Mi*, by Jose-Luis Orozco



*Te Amo, Bebe, Little One*, by Lisa Wheeler and Maribel Suarez

*Libro!/ Book!* by Kristine O'Connell George



*Whoever You Are*, by Mem Fox

*What I Like about Me*, by Allia Zobel Nolan

## Talk



Pairing simple signs with words helps your baby make connections to what they hear. It also gives them a way to communicate before they learn to talk. You can learn signs from books, videos, and websites, and some libraries offer Baby Sign classes. <http://babysignandplay.com/>



Mommy



Daddy



Please



Thank You

## Write



Babies love to see pictures of faces, so make a book of people that are important in your young child's life. Glue photos of them onto sturdy sheets of paper and write their names in big letters underneath. Staple the sheets together or put them in a binder for baby to look at. It will help them understand that letters have meaning.

## Play



### Ball Roll Game

Big, soft balls are a great toy to use with your baby. If they are sitting up by themselves you can gently roll the ball to them so they can grab it. If they are not sitting up you can lay your baby across the ball on their tummy and gently roll the ball back and forth underneath them. This can be very relaxing to the baby and can be a way of introducing rhythm if you hum or sing a song while rolling them. Here is a song to sing to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat":

*Roll, roll, roll the ball  
Back and forth we go.  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,  
Back and forth we go.*

(adapted from *125 Brain Games for Babies*, by Jackie Silberg)

## Sing



### Chocolate

Bate, bate, chocolate, Stir, stir, the chocolate,  
Tu nariz de cacahuete. Your nose is a peanut.

Uno, dos, tres, CHO! One, two, three, CHO!

Uno, dos, tres, CO! One, two, three, CO!

Uno, dos, tres, LA! One, two, three, LA!

Uno, dos, tres, TE! One, two, three, TE!

Chocolate, chocolate! Chocolate, chocolate!

Bate, bate, Stir, stir,  
chocolate! the chocolate!

*(baje la voz y el cuerpo)* *(lower voice and body)*

Bate, bate, bate, bate, Stir, stir, stir, stir,

Bate, bate, Stir, stir,  
CHOCOLATE! CHOCOLATE!

*(brinque y grite)* *(jump up and shout)*



## At your library...



Your librarian can help you find books in other languages at the public library, get them on loan from other Idaho libraries, or help you access them online.