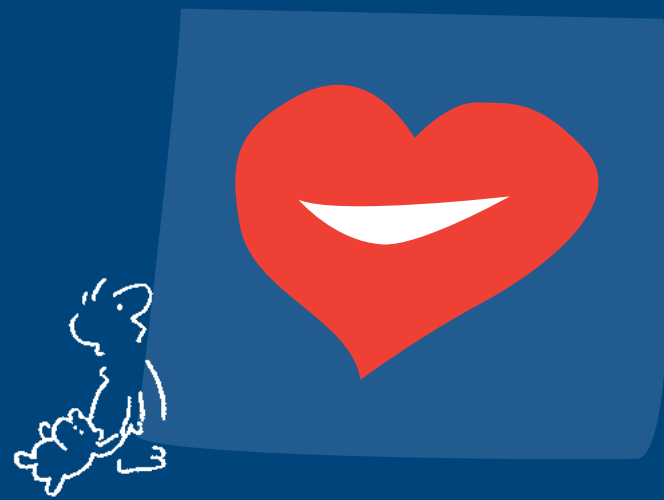




Inglese 06/03/2014 / Illustrazione: Hugo Bossard, Biberist ©

Your mother tongue = The language of your heart



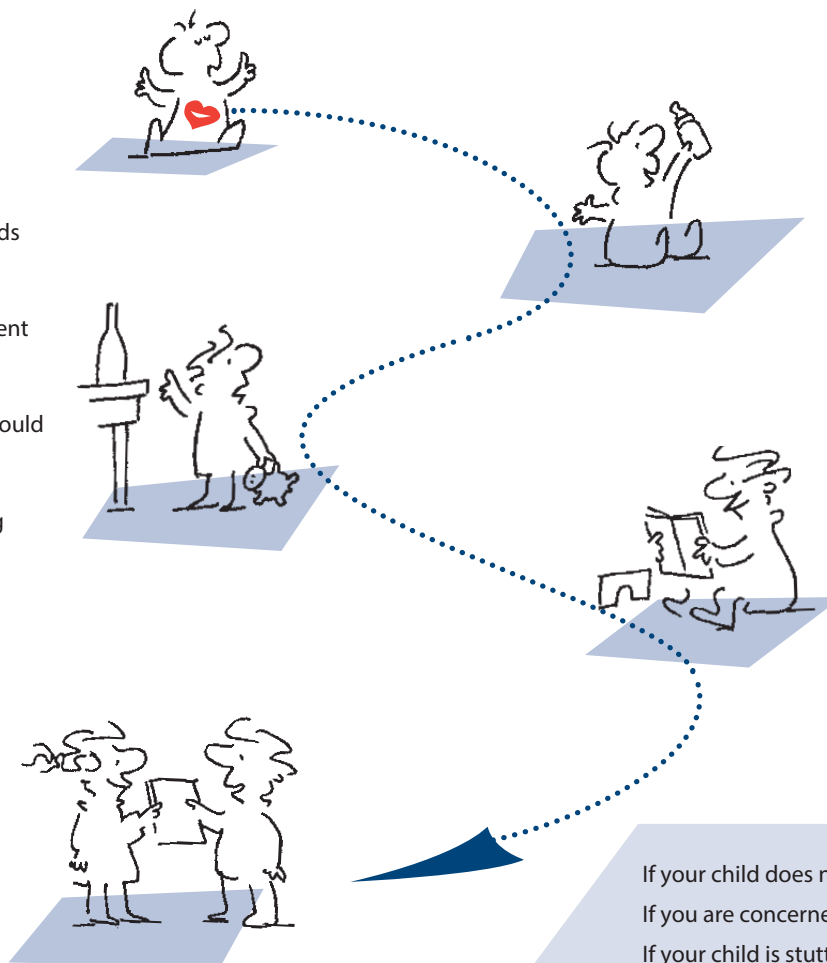
Which language shall I speak with my child?



Your mother tongue = The language of your heart

- Multilingualism = A chance
The degree of success in speaking a second language depends a lot on how well one speaks and understands one's first language.
- Speak with your child in the language you feel confident in and which you are comfortable about.
- If parents speak different languages, both partners should speak with their child in their own mother tongue.
- Telling your child stories, telling or singing comforting verses and singing lullabies to him/her is a good way to communicate your culture and language.

Furthermore,
as the parents of your child, it is highly recommended to deal with and look into the subject of the Italian language as well as to try to make contact with Italian-speaking children.



Language development

In the first year
a child reacts to hearing his/her name and keeps eye-contact and babbles (tattles) and imitates sounds.

At the age of 2
a child is able to understand everyday and situation-dependent requests and speaks at least 50 words.

At the age of 3
a child asks questions: «What/Who is that?», «What is this like?» and is able to produce most sounds.

At the age of 4
a child makes short sentences and asks «Why?»-questions. Furthermore, is able to understand short stories and to remember songs and verses.

At the age of 5/6 (kindergarten age)
a child is able to speak in a way which is understandable to external people and is able to talk about feelings and needs.

If your child does not make these steps of development, ...
If you are concerned about your child's language skills, ...
If your child is stuttering or if he/she has got a croaky noise over a longer time period ...
then do not hesitate to request and expert's advice.