

Homework 6.2. Language Plan

Make a language plan for your family! Discuss together with your spouse how you could best support the language development of your child. Think of common principles, rules and tools to be adopted into your multilingual everyday lives. Be creative and feel free to update your plan whenever you get new insight and experience on the matter.

Part 1: Questions for discussion

- Which languages should you speak to your child and why? If you have to make a choice between your own mother tongues, explain the reasons why you choose one over another?
- Which language/languages are you going to speak to each other and why? Should you make any changes now because you are going to have a child?
- Which one of the languages the child will need more support with? How can you offer it?
- The language/languages of a child start to develop long before she/he can actually understand or produce it herself/himself. How can you support the language development of your baby from day one?
- Which languages is your child going to learn later on (in school for example)?
- What kind of attitudes do your parents and other relatives have towards bilingualism/monolingualism? Can you affect them, and if yes, how?

Part 2: Our family's language plan

Use the template on the next page to **write down your own multilingualism rules**. Write down the plans you both agree to follow in the parenting of your multilingual child. Think about everyday things to support the language development of your child. Make plans on the language/languages of bedtime stories, songs, games, cartoons, children's activities, social gatherings, holidays, etc.

OUR LANGUAGE PLAN

The language/ languages we will speak to our child are:

The language/languages we will speak together are:

Other plans we commit to in order to support bilingualism in our family:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.
