



PARENTS

Involving parents in plurilingual and intercultural education

<http://parents.ecml.at>

Getting started

PARENTS

Parents, what can you do together with the teachers?

You speak another language than the languages taught at school? You do not speak other languages than the school language(s), come and share your accent, your ways of speaking, the specialized language of your job!

You speak another language variety (« dialect ») ? Come and let the others discover it.

You think you will not be able to teach? The teachers are there to help you to prepare and present your intervention.

You think that school programs are already overloaded and that these activities will be a waste of time ? Don't be so sure! Teachers will build on activities with parents to work on curriculum content (reading, oral expression, handwriting, discovering the world...).

You think that it is more important for children to learn the school language and English? Discovering other languages helps to understand better how languages function and thus to understand better the languages of the curriculum.

You think that the school's main goal is improving social cohesion? Come and contribute to establishing connections between the different languages and cultures in our society, starting from our school!

TEACHERS

Teachers, you would like to work more with parents at the development of a plurilingual and intercultural education, but ...

You have little time? Start with our activities and create a team with one or more colleagues.

You do not have plurilingual tools (books, songs, movies...)? Ask parents to lend you some, to come and tell a tale you can record, to translate texts with you... This will give you the opportunity to create a center of plurilingual resources the parents can manage.

Parents are too busy to come to school? Ask grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins... !

You do not have any common language with certain parents? Ask other parents, cultural mediators, to invite them.

You think that certain languages, « dialects », are not interesting? You can create an activity about comparing language systems or about cultural discovery starting from any language-culture.

There are no children from other countries in your class? Invite parents to share their ways of speaking, their accents, the specialized language of their job, to introduce regional languages, recipes... !

You think that school programs are already overloaded and don't want to lose time ? You can build on parents' interventions to work on curriculum content (reading, oral expression, handwriting, discovering the world...).

You think that the priority is the school language? These plurilingual activities enhance a better understanding of the way languages function and therefore of the school language, too.