

# FAQ's

## **What are the benefits of acquiring a second language at an early age?**

There are numerous benefits. To name a few...

- When children learn a second language before the developmental window closes, they enhance their own native language skills as well.
- Younger children will be able to develop a more native-like accent.
- Young children are less self-conscious about speaking a second language.
- Children enrolled in foreign language programs score statistically higher on standardized tests conducted in English.
- Communication in a second language requires higher degrees of conscious attention, thus stimulating brain development
- Bilingualism promotes cognitive flexibility. That means that children who are bilingual ultimately have stronger language skills for their native and second languages (Kayser 1998).
- Fluency in Spanish gives children and adults the opportunity to communicate with and learn from their neighbors.
- Bilingual individuals have employment advantages in the US and global job marketplaces.
- Foreign language learning experience may facilitate and accelerate the language learning processes of additional languages.

[http://abcnews.go.com/ABC\\_Univision/News/bilingualism-mental-flexibility/story?id=20247781](http://abcnews.go.com/ABC_Univision/News/bilingualism-mental-flexibility/story?id=20247781)

## **Why teach a second language at such an early age?**

Research proves that the ability to learn a second language is highest between birth and the age of six. After that window, there is an inevitable decline. Adults may still manage to learn new languages, but typically only after great struggle. During this period (early childhood years) and especially the first three years of life, the foundations for thinking, language, vision, attitudes, aptitudes, and other characteristics are laid down. It would be a waste not to use a child's natural ability to learn during his or her most vital years, when learning a second language is as easy as learning the first. Additionally, children enrolled in foreign language programs score statistically higher on standardized tests conducted in English. A number of reports have demonstrated that children who have learned a second language earn higher SAT scores, particularly on the verbal section of the test. The reason stems from the fact that many English words share Latin roots with Spanish and other romance language synonyms.

<http://learn-spanish-software-review.toptenreviews.com/when-should-a-child-learn-another-language.html>

## **Why Spanish?**

In USA cities, the use of Spanish is booming, and is proliferating in ways no other language has before in U.S. history — other than English of course. Individuals that speak English and Spanish no doubt have employment advantages in the US and global job marketplaces.

## **How will my child be prepared for Kindergarten if he/she is learning in Spanish all day, every day?**

In Preschool you will teach children the concepts they will need for Kindergarten. Recognizing that concepts and skills learned in one language transfer to the second language, and that exposure to experiences rich in two languages is an advantage for the developing child, we are assured that our students will be more than adequately prepared for Kindergarten. Additionally, we will be sending parents the lesson plans outlining all major concepts which were focused on so that parents may reinforce the concepts at home in English.

[http://www.earlychildhoodnews.com/earlychildhood/article\\_view.aspx?ArticleID=60](http://www.earlychildhoodnews.com/earlychildhood/article_view.aspx?ArticleID=60)