



### 1

### EXOGENOUS PARENTS

Because we live in a Francophone minority setting, children are constantly exposed to the English language. Therefore, there are more opportunities for children to learn English than to learn French in their everyday lives. By speaking French in your home, you're allowing your children to develop their bilingualism and their Francophone cultural identity.

What you can do:

- If you don't speak French, you can ask your children to read what they're reading out loud and explain it to you.

- Encourage your children to compare and analyze the different languages they use and learn so they can find similarities and differences between them. This can allow them to differentiate the languages and use them better separately.

- Ask your children about the similarities and differences between the languages. For example, words that look alike and their meanings, or prefixes and suffixes used regularly in each language.

Examples: "in-" in French and "un-" in English, "commun" in French and "common" in English.

- Learning a new language when it's not the one used daily at home can be exhausting; the children have to stay focused for a long period of time. When your children come back from French school, let them get recharged before starting homework or before reading a book with them.

#### Sources:

Comment aider votre enfant à réussir à l'école de langue française – *Guide à l'intention des parents*  
Ministère de l'Éducation de l'Ontario, 2015