

# Why parents should encourage their children to speak English?

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Are you afraid that your child doesn't speak English? Do you think your child is shy or he lacks English speaking skills? For many parents, the struggle to make their child speak in English begins early in childhood. Although, in India, schools make kids speak English in the premises, the rule is not very well followed. Therefore, as a parent, the onus lies on you to help your child get the much-needed confidence to express in English. Let us look at some tips that can help you encourage your child to [learn and speak English](#).



## Tips to support your child's English learning

### Learn English yourself

Believe it or not, the learning of a language - English or your native language, first begins at home. So, if you want to be a good teacher, first you should practice speaking English with your ward. If you think you are not very good at English speaking, why not join an online spoken English class and improve your skills first. You can learn English together with your child and create a positive environment for him to learn and speak the language fluently.

### Introduce your kids to bedtime stories

Early in childhood, you can introduce your kids to the world of fascinating bedtime stories and get their interest in learning the language. Read bedtime stories in English as it will build a perfect base for language learning opportunities. Make use of illustrated storybooks as a little tot may not understand the language, but can get the story by looking the visuals.

### Play in English

As children pickup their native language from you, they can learn English words as well when you communicate in the language frequently. One way to do this is to play games in English. For instance, get them a scrabble board or chess. There are many board games that can help raise their interest in the language.

### Don't criticize

Often parents interrupt their kids when they speak wrong English. This habit will do more harm than good as your child may feel embarrassed in front of others and will avoid speaking the language totally. Instead of correcting your child then and there, wait for him to finish and utter the correct sentence rather than pointing his mistake. A positive approach will go a long way in helping your child learn the language and speak confidently.

### Conclusion

As an English teacher, I believe that the strongest factor in a child's success to speak English depends upon

their parent's interest and encouragement. You can do a lot to support your kid's language learning skills. Therefore, join an [English speaking course](#) and improve your skills, so that you can be a pillar of strength for your kids.

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**- By Chander Madan**

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