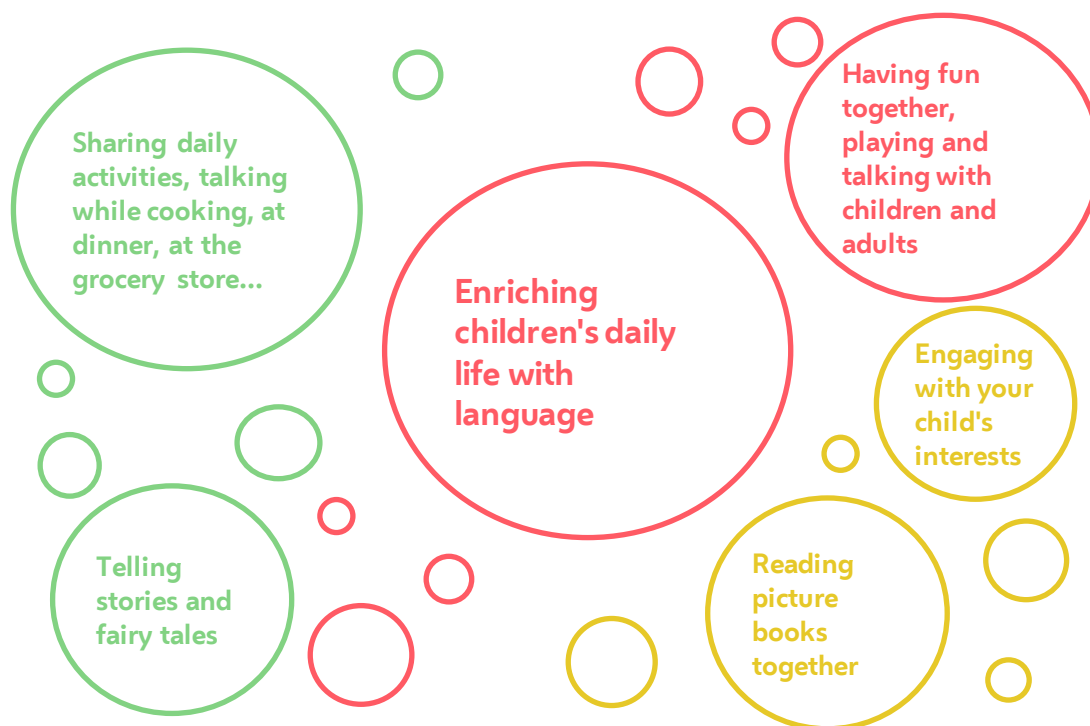


## DEAR FAMILY!

Language skills are the key to the world. Together with you, we want to listen to your children, talk with them, and support them in their language development.

In Vienna, we speak many languages. It is important to respect and appreciate every child's home language. In kindergarten, your child participates in many activities that support her or his German language acquisition. You can support your child by using your family language when playing and speaking with your child. This provides a good foundation for your child to learn other languages.

## HOW TO SUPPORT CHILDREN AT HOME AND IN KINDERGARTEN



## SUPPORTING LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT IN KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten teachers support language development as part of day-to-day kindergarten life, with games, songs, stories and physical activities, and when children build, craft and experiment with things. It is important that children enjoy these activities and participate with curiosity.

Two practical examples: Sometimes, Paula doesn't know the right words. The kindergarten teacher reads a picture book about cats with her. Paula likes cats. Other children are curious and join them. Together they start talking about the story. Afterwards, they play a movement game called "wild animals". Tarek has difficulty forming sentences. He likes to sing, so the teacher selects fun songs with many repetitions.

## LANGUAGE SKILL OBSERVATION IN KINDERGARTEN

Two years before the children reach school age, the teachers start observing their linguistic development as they play and talk. The results of these observations show whether your child needs additional support. This allows us to start supporting your child early on in just the way she or he needs.

## TRANSITIONING FROM KINDERGARTEN TO SCHOOL

The language of instruction in school is German. If your child speaks and understands German, she or he can participate actively in class, experience successes and gain confidence. Being able to communicate well is also important for talking with others and making friends.

## THAT IS WHY LANGUAGE SUPPORT IN KINDERGARTEN IS AN OPPORTUNITY



## SCHOOL REGISTRATION AND HANDOVER SHEET

In the spring of the last kindergarten year, you register your child for primary school. As part of the registration process, the school determines whether children are ready for school and how well they speak German. On the last day of kindergarten, your family will receive a handover sheet (Übergabebblatt) that provides information on the current language status of your child. Please give this sheet to your child's teacher in the first week of school. This helps provide seamless support for your child in kindergarten and in school.

## WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO ACCOMPANYING YOUR CHILD ON THIS JOURNEY TOGETHER WITH YOU!