

Learning a Language Naturally

“Language Stars is simply a great program; I have never found anything that works as well for my children. Language Stars makes learning a game,” says Karen Pritzker, mother of 5.

Language Stars’ unique FunImmersion® method does turn learning into a game, focusing on a young child’s ability to learn a language naturally, through fun and engaging activities. Children learn through interactive games, arts & crafts, singing, cooking, treasure hunts, obstacle courses and more, all presented entirely in the foreign language.

“Children have a unique “window of opportunity”, between birth and adolescence, during which the brain is uniquely suited to absorbing language naturally,” explains Karen Gould, Language Stars’ Director of Education. “Children have the innate ability to absorb the structures and rules of a language as easily as they learned their first language, without having to go through rote memorization or boring grammar exercises. They can also mimic a native accent flawlessly.”

Beyond the linguistic benefits, children who learn a second language young go on to show enhanced spatial relations and problem solving skills, stronger overall communication skills, and higher elementary and SAT test scores.

Unfortunately, Gould says, most American schools don’t begin teaching a second language until well after this “window of opportunity” has closed. As far as language learning goes, research shows that the rule is “the younger the better.” While some parents worry that starting their toddler on a second language will interfere with developing English skills, the opposite is actually true. Youngsters can actually differentiate between two languages within the first weeks of life, and learning another language early actually enhances a child’s overall verbal development.

Language Stars’ team of educators and linguists specially designs its programs to take advantage of this “window of opportunity.” Parent and Tot programs provide tod-

dlers from 12 to 36 months old with their first exposure to the sounds, structures and intonation patterns of a new language. “Parents are really amazed to see how naturally their child takes to hearing nothing but Spanish in the classroom – especially when it doesn’t come as easily to the parent!” says Lynn Allavoine, Language Stars teacher and Director of Teacher Training. “When their 18 month old suddenly asks for ‘mas galletas’ at snack, parents are blown away!”

Kids Only programs are offered year-round for children ages 3-5, 5-8, and 8-10 years old.



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“In addition to traditional indoor/outdoor camp activities, Language Stars offers kids total immersion language play (don’t think of it as instruction) in Spanish, French, German, Italian, or Mandarin. After just one week, there was an explosion of Spanish in our house! The teachers are all native speakers, and most importantly, my daughter had a ton of fun. Gracias, Language Stars!”

Language Stars has several locations around the Chicagoland area including Barrington, Arlington Heights and more!

To learn more about Language Stars, please call 866-55 STARS or visit www.languagestars.com

