

# Autism myth busting

**1. What is autism?** Autism is a lifelong condition that changes the way the brain develops and works.

**2. What causes autism?** Most experts think that there isn't one cause of autism, and sometimes it can be due to genetics. It starts before a child is born, even if it takes a few years to be visible. Autism is NOT caused by bad parenting, vaccines, infections, diet or trauma.

**3. Is there a cure?** No, there is no cure, and there is no need for a cure. Any treatment that pretends to be a cure is not honest.

**4. Who can be autistic?** People on any gender, any skin colour, any culture, any origin, any religion can be autistic.

**5. Is it possible to "grow out" of autism?** No, autistic people's experiences and abilities change during their life, like everybody, but they will always be autistic. Autism is an important part of peoples' identity.

**6. What can autistic people do?** Autistic people can do great things, just like non-autistic people. They might just do some things differently.

# Speaking 2 languages (or more!) with your autistic child?

You can find this leaflet online at:



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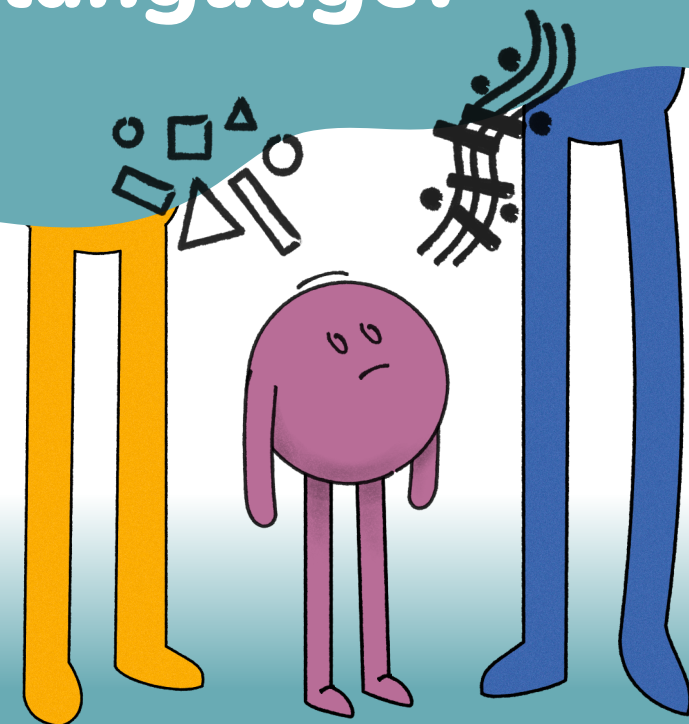
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# My child is autistic, should they learn more than one language?



It is natural to prefer to speak your own language with your children. If you worry that speaking your own language with your autistic child will be a problem, this leaflet is for you.