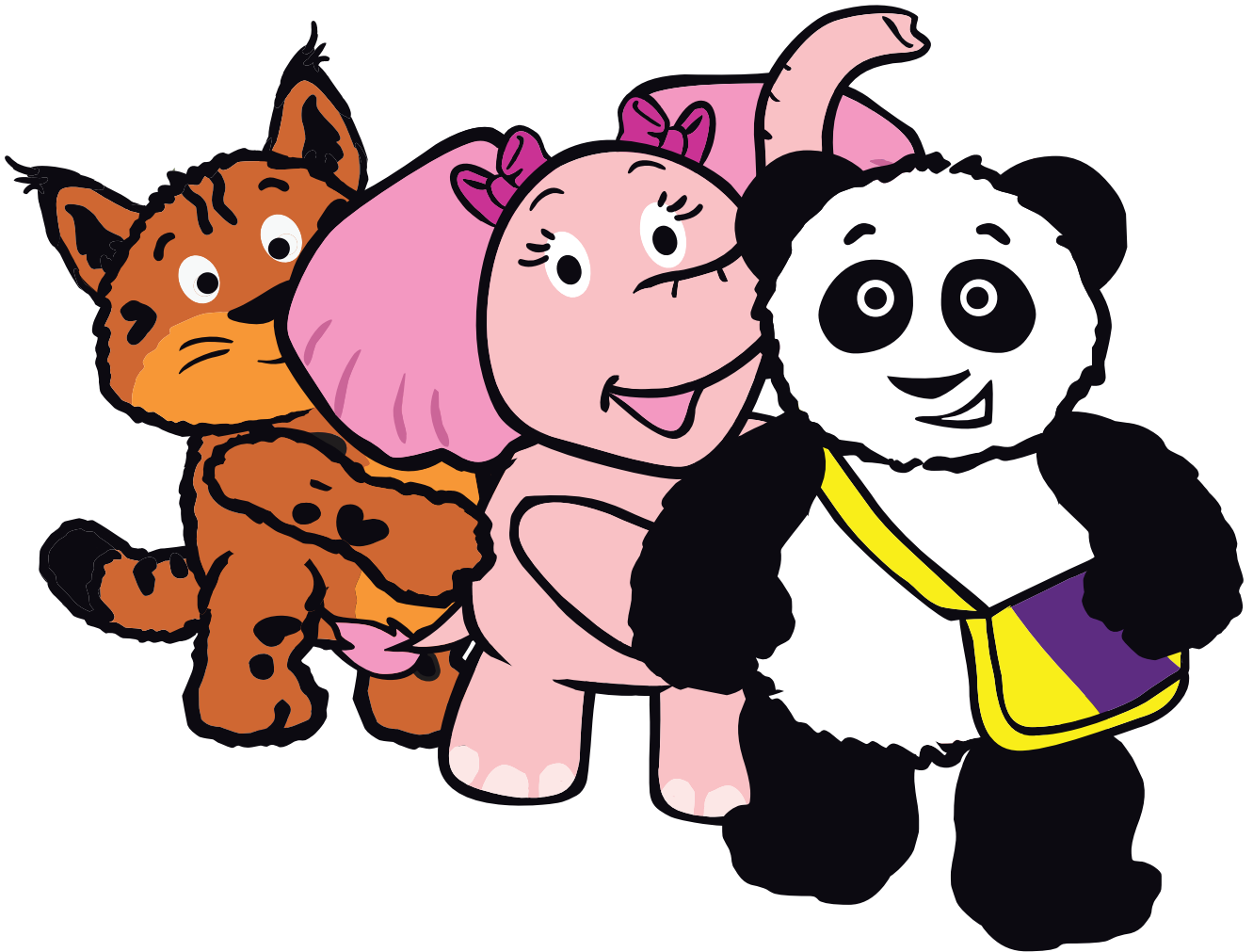


LITTLE
Pim

Parent Guide





Congratulations on choosing the most effective method for introducing babies, toddlers, and pre-schoolers to a second or third language at the time they learn best. The series is especially designed to take advantage of the critical window when young minds are hard-wired to learn up to three languages with ease, which is up to six years old.

This parent guide includes information and tips so you can become your child's first language tutor even if you don't speak the language yourself. Please also visit our website at LittlePim.com to find full scripts for each language, our blog featuring articles on bilingualism, fun activities for kids, and more!

The Little Pim series stars an animated panda bear named Little Pim who is also the teacher. Using our unique Entertainment Immersion Method™, Little Pim makes learning easy and fun. The videos combine live-action segments showing children eating, playing and engaging in everyday activities, along with the adorable animation of Little Pim the panda. The entire series is in the foreign language for total immersion, with optional subtitles for parents or caregivers.

We are always eager to hear from parents, grandparents, and caregivers about their experience with our products. You can email us at info@littlepim.com

Thank you for choosing Little Pim for your little learner.

Julia Pimsleur Levine
Founder of Little Pim



TIPS AND TOOLS

How to use Little Pim

Each Little Pim theme is broken up into seven short episodes. Because we know babies and toddlers have short attention spans, Little Pim was designed to allow you to start and stop after any of the five-minute episodes. Older children (2-6) may enjoy watching the seven short episodes in one sitting. You can pause the episodes at any time and interact with your child to help reinforce the new vocabulary.

As you and your child watch the episodes, repeat the words and phrases aloud.

If you know the vocabulary, you can comment on what is happening or predict what comes next. Speaking and interacting with the video is an effective way to engage your child and enhance their learning.

How many hours per weeks should my child watch?

Our recommendation is for babies and toddlers to watch at least two five-minute episodes two-to-three times a week, and for older children to watch all seven episodes. It is best to expose your child to the sounds of the foreign language as often as possible.

Learn with your child and make it fun.

Practicing along with your child keeps him or her motivated and engaged. Put post-its around the house or find objects mentioned in the videos right after watching, and name them together in the new language.

Model, don't correct.

If your child makes a mistake, simply reinforce the word and show that you've understood, then repeat the word with the correct pronunciation. You can refer to the videos for proper pronunciation.

Enroll your child in a language playgroup.

Find other parents with children who are learning the same language as your child, and get together weekly for singing, stories, and play in the foreign language. If you do not have access to one, start one yourself!

Engage your child in the foreign language whenever you can.

Use his or her favorite toys or everyday objects to talk about vocabulary you have learned. For example, use the new words as you cook, or pretend that his or her stuffed animals are having a tea party and reinforce the vocabulary in the series.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why should my child learn a foreign language?

There are numerous benefits of learning a second language early in life. Children who are consistently exposed from a very young age to the sounds of a foreign language are more likely to achieve native or near-native fluency in adulthood and have a much easier time learning other languages later in life. Research shows that these children also tend to have stronger verbal, cognitive and analytical skills – giving them a head start in school. Simply put, learning a second language boosts brain power, even if the child does not achieve total fluency.

Will my child be confused?

Children are uniquely equipped to learn up to three languages without affecting their progress in their mother tongues. Countless people grow up in multilingual environments: for example, many Swiss, Belgians, Canadians and Africans learn two or even three languages from birth.

In the first half of the 20th century, the prevailing view was that bilingualism and second-language acquisition early in life confused children and interfered with their ability to develop normal cognitive functions and succeed in educational environments. These ideas were reversed in a landmark study by Peal and Lambert that showed a general superiority of bilinguals over monolinguals in a wide range of intelligence tests and aspects of school achievement. Please refer to our books on page six to learn more about the many benefits of studying a second language at a young age.

What if I don't speak any foreign languages?

The Little Pim series can be enjoyed and used by adults with no prior experience in speaking a foreign language. Although adults will not have as easy a time repeating the vocabulary as young children, they too will be amazed at how quickly they pick up a few new words. There are also aids built in for adults: optional subtitles in English, writing on the screen, and a free downloadable script for each language on our website.



FUN PANDA FACTS

We can learn facts about real pandas from Little Pim.

Did you know that pandas like to eat bamboo all day long?

Find out more fun panda facts below!

- **Pandas eat 20-40 pounds of bamboo each day!** To find and consume this much bamboo means that a panda must spend 10 to 16 hours a day foraging and eating.
- **Newborn pandas can fit in the palm of a human hand.** At birth, the cub is 1/900th the size of its mother! Except for marsupials (such as a kangaroo or opossum), a baby giant panda is the smallest mammal newborn relative to its mother's size.
- **A baby panda is called a cub.** They are very playful and like to climb, roll and tumble with each other.
- **Scientists do not know why pandas are black and white.** Some think the bold coloring provides camouflage in their snowy, rocky surroundings, as well as up in shade-dappled trees.
- **Giant pandas have lived in bamboo forests for several million years.** Today, it is estimated that as few as 1,600 pandas remain in the wild. Pandas are found in the temperate forests of China.
- **Giant pandas do not hibernate, unlike other bears.** Their bamboo diet does not fatten them up enough to sleep through the winter. Since bamboo grows year round they don't need to hibernate.



HOW LITTLE PIM WAS CREATED

About the Creator and Founder:

Little Pim was created by Julia Pimsleur Levine, mother of two, award-winning filmmaker, and experienced language teacher, in consultation with Dr. April Benasich, a leading neuroscientist who is the Director of the Infancy Studies Laboratory at Rutgers University. Pimsleur Levine is the daughter of Dr. Paul Pimsleur who created the world-famous audio method for foreign language learning. She grew up in a multilingual home and achieved fluency in French by the age of six through immersion and play. In addition to French, she speaks conversant Italian, and some Spanish and German.

Pimsleur Levine explains her motivation for creating the *Little Pim* series: "When my first son was born, I wanted him to have the same gift I received from my parents: learning a second language from an early age. I searched for videos to reinforce the French I was teaching him at home, but I couldn't find any age-appropriate, high-quality products. I wanted him to watch something that was entertaining, educational and beautifully made. Something I would want to watch *with* him. I created *Little Pim* for my son, but also to give families everywhere an easy and fun way to introduce children to the basic building blocks of a foreign language, even if the parents themselves don't speak the second language."

Pimsleur Levine worked for almost two years with an award-winning team of animators, filmmakers, language specialists and neuroscientists to bring *Little Pim* to life, and considers *Little Pim* to be more than her business, it's a labor of love!



THE RESEARCH

Language Exposure At An Early Age

Study after study shows that from birth to age six, the human brain is optimally equipped for learning and producing language. Little Pim was specifically created for young children to be able to take full advantage of this window for learning.

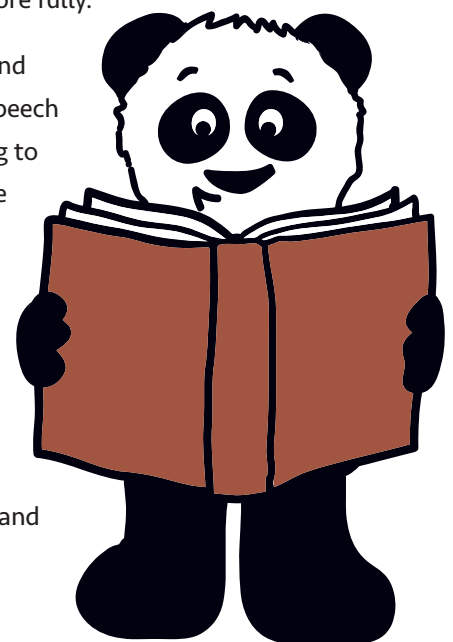
Babies hear their mothers' voices before birth and know the rhythm of their native language as newborns. Once born, babies can understand and discriminate the sounds of every language in the world. Infants detect different sounds and hear the nuances in foreign languages with perfect clarity and precision. The sound elements of language are called phonemes, and repeated studies show that adults perceive phonemes differently than infants.

Young children's ways of assimilating language are distinctly different from adults, especially in pronunciation. As children become "tuned" to their native language (or languages), they gradually lose the ability to tell the subtle sounds in foreign languages apart. When people are introduced to foreign sounds later in life, they have much more difficulty hearing the differences, thus making it that much harder to imitate these sounds.

Babies gain understanding long before they can speak and benefit from having a rich language environment. That is because babies learn to talk by listening. Research tells us that the more words babies hear, the more quickly they learn to talk. Frequent exposure to words and active social engagement helps the brain pathways that foster language learning to develop more fully.

Children need to hear language in relation to what is happening around them. It must capture the child's attention, thus the "motherese" - speech with rising and exaggerated contours - is very effective when speaking to one's baby or toddler. In addition, surrounding children with language materials such as books, objects and pictures for naming help to support language learning. Little Pim's voice mirrors "motherese" and the series uses sharp and colorful images of objects and actions, allowing young viewers to connect the sounds they hear with actions and objects in real life.

Little Pim makes it easy and fun for parents to take advantage of the best window of opportunity for successful foreign language learning and give them all the cognitive benefits of being multilingual.



RESOURCE GUIDE

Websites

www.LittlePim.com

Visit our website to download Teaching Tips, Companion Scripts, and free Printables. Follow the blog for tips on making language learning fun. Subscribe to our videos to choose a language to start learning today.

www.multilingualchildren.org

Information, support, and resources for parents raising multilingual children.

www.multilingual-matters.com

Publishing house with books in the areas of multilingualism and second/foreign language learning. They also publish a newsletter for bilingual families.

www.cal.org/earlylang

A comprehensive resource on foreign language teaching and learning in grades preK-8 produced by the Center for Applied Linguistics.

www.biculturalfamily.org

Network of families worldwide who are raising bilingual children. This site offers support and resources in the form of a website and e-newsletter.

www.nnell.org

The National Network for Early Language learning is an educational community providing leadership in support of successful early language learning and teaching.

www.talktoyourbaby.org.uk

Offers accessible and sensible information on early language and introducing a second language.

www.bilingualfamilynewsletter.com

This quarterly publication is aimed at parents and teachers. It offers advice and lets readers share experience.

www.multilingualliving.com/category/nonnative

This worldwide site offers tips and support to non-fluent parents raising a child in non-native language.

www.psych.mcgill.ca/perpg/fac/genesee/fredad.html

This free guide is available to download, from professor of psychology at McGill University.

Books

7 Steps to Raising a Bilingual Child by Dr. Naomi Steiner with Susan L. Hayes

This book provides parents with a practical action plan, advice for navigating school-related issues and more.

The Bilingual Edge: Why, When, and How to Teach Your Child a Second Language

by Kendall King, Ph.D., and Alison Mackey, Ph.D.

Written by two linguistic professors who are also raising their own children bilingually.

Bilingual: Life and Reality by Prof. François Grosjean

Investigates the psychological, cultural and political implications of bilingualism.

Bilingual By Choice by Virginie Raguenaud

Provides families with specific activities, games and insights that will help their kids learn and develop more than one language.



Visit [LittlePim.com](https://www.littlepim.com) for more information