



BY THE

LANGUAGE LEARNING NUMBERS

5 WAYS BEING BILINGUAL MAKES YOU SMARTER

People who know two (or more) languages are just plain smart. They can tell the difference between “embarazada” and “embarrassed.” They can ace their math test and their science test all in the same day. They can even impress their friends with extraordinary feats of vocabulary as they discern new words from second-language roots. In our opinion, bilingual people are just plain smart.

HERE ARE JUST A FEW (TOTALLY OBJECTIVE) REASONS WHY:

+23-34

In a Florida study, kids who knew two languages **SCORED AN AVERAGE OF 23 TO 34 POINTS HIGHER** on both math and language arts standardized tests than kids who only spoke one language.


BABIES RAISED IN BILINGUAL HOMES DEMONSTRATED SUPERIOR COGNITIVE ABILITY—SPECIFICALLY THE ABILITY TO SEEK NEW STIMULI MORE QUICKLY—AS EARLY AS SEVEN MONTHS OLD. (And according to the National Academy of Sciences, that’s an early indicator of a high IQ.)



54

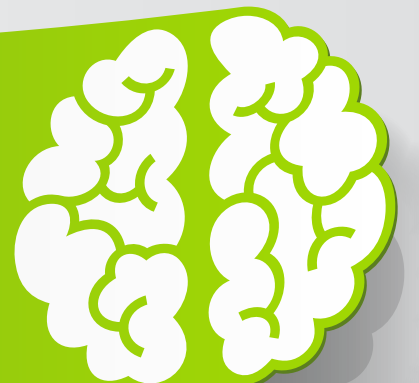
PERCENT OF PRESCHOOL-AGE BILINGUAL CHILDREN ARE ABLE TO EASILY DISTINGUISH THE MEANINGS OF WORDS.

(Most children aren’t able to do this until elementary school.)

20% 
TWO LANGUAGES vs. ONE LANGUAGE

People who know more than one language are able to pay attention for 20% longer on average than their one-language-speaking friends. (Now that certainly would come in handy during a long class period, wouldn’t it?)

0.05 **The number of cubic millimeters of gray matter** that bilingual people have in the parietal regions of their brains. (In plain English, people who speak more than one language have more dense gray matter in their brains, making them smarter.)





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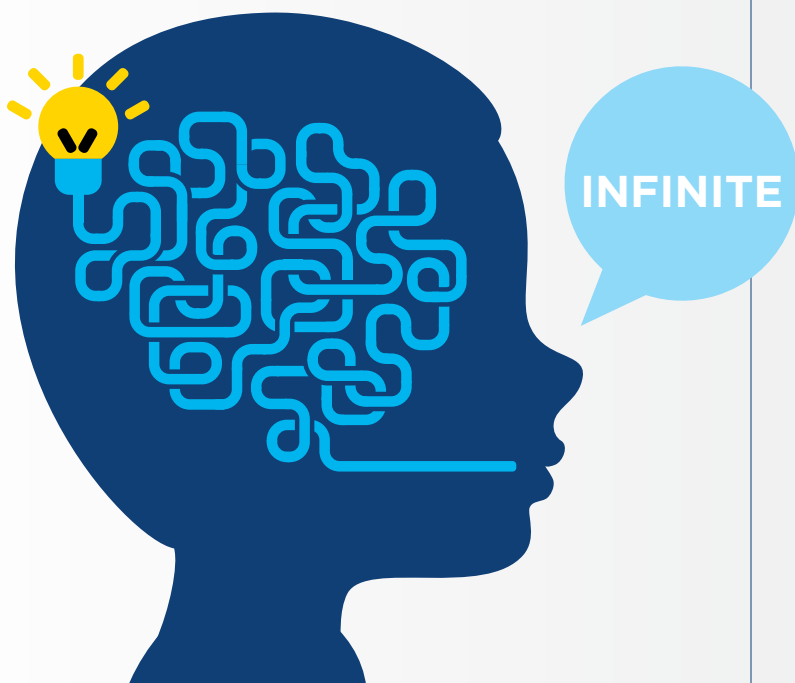
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5 REASONS KNOWING A WORLD LANGUAGE MAKES YOU MORE CREATIVE

People who know two or more languages make our world more colorful. They can tell you about early Renaissance art and can also pronounce the names of the artists ... correctly. They can speak with a flourish and cadence that sounds like a classic song. They can even whip up a batch of chocolate éclairs that would make you say “ooh la la!” In our opinion, people who speak more than one language are some of the most creative in the world.

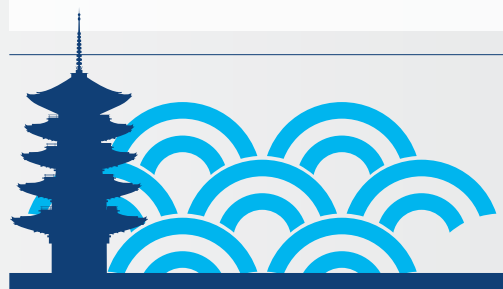
HERE ARE JUST A FEW (TOTALLY OBJECTIVE) REASONS WHY:



People who know more than one language are better able to utilize a distinct area of the brain called Broca's area. **As infinite connections between words and languages are made in the brain, these thinkers are able to better think creatively and abstractly.**

1,596,234

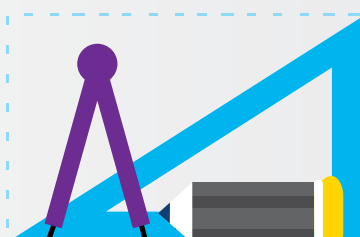
The number of people who tuned in to the **TedTalk by linguist Patricia Kuhl** as she explained how bilingualism helps babies as young as six months old make use of sophisticated creative reasoning.



DID YOU KNOW THAT IN JAPANESE, THERE ARE TWO WORDS FOR THE COLOR BLUE?

(One refers to lighter shades of blue and the other refers to darker ones.) Because different languages vary so much in vocabulary, people who speak two languages are able to perceive things like color differently.

A GROUP OF 60 BILINGUAL STUDENTS WERE STUDIED ALONGSIDE 60 OF THEIR ONE-LANGUAGE-SPEAKING PEERS. The researchers found a noticeable difference in the level of detail and richness in descriptions by the bilingual student—proof that they think more colorfully.



45.4 MONTHS Bilingual children showed a statistically significant increase in mathematical creativity (that's code for thinking outside of the box) as early as 45.4 months. That's less than four years old.





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LANGUAGE NUMBERS LEARNING

5 REASONS EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW AT LEAST TWO LANGUAGES

People who know two (or more) languages can perform a host of super human feats. They can order dinner in another country without accidentally getting broiled squid. They can make friends with people from different cultures and countries. They can also ask for directions to the restroom and *actually end up in the restroom*. In our opinion, everyone should learn another language!

HERE ARE JUST A FEW (TOTALLY OBJECTIVE) REASONS WHY:

38↑
WOW!

Students who study a world language for just one year score an average of 38 points higher on the SATs. (Even cooler: Students who took four years of a world language showed scores that were more than a hundred points higher on average.)

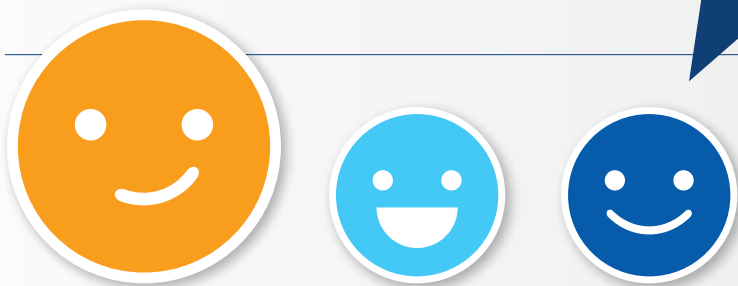
DO YOU EVER FIND IT HARD TO DO TWO THINGS AT ONCE?

The National Institutes of Health discovered that people who speak more than one language are much better at multitasking, which means walking on your hands while chewing gum should be a breeze.



\$128,000

According to an MIT study, people who know two or more languages earn an average of \$128,000 more in their lifetimes.



PEOPLE WHO KNOW TWO LANGUAGES ARE NICER.

2012: The year that researchers at the University of Cambridge discovered that people who know two languages are nicer. According to the research, bilingual folks are better able to tolerate differences and find solutions to conflict.



260

Eight hundred thirty-five 11-year-olds were tested on their cognitive ability in Scotland in 1947. Between 2008 and 2010, those same people were retested when they were in their seventies. Of the 835 case studies, 260 knew at least two languages. **THOSE 260 PEOPLE TESTED SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER IN COGNITIVE FUNCTION THAN THEIR SOLELY ENGLISH-SPEAKING PEERS.**