

## Resources at your Local Library

Hennepin County Libraries have 41 branches with resources to help you and your child read in any language!



The three libraries closest to Windom Dual Immersion School are the Washburn, Augsburg Park, and Nokomis Libraries, and all three have Spanish book collections!

### Books available in Spanish include:

- original Spanish children's books
- Spanish editions of popular English children's books and series including Mo Willem's *Elephant and Piggie* books, the *Magic Treehouse* series, and Roald Dahl books
- a variety of bilingual books, ranging from picture books to nonfiction



For more information about books and other resources available at Hennepin County Libraries, visit [www.hclib.org](http://www.hclib.org), choose the "Browse" menu, and select "Featured Languages" for resources in Spanish and many more languages.

## Helpful Library Vocabulary

### English

librarian  
available/checked out  
check-out desk

due date

overdue  
library card

to renew  
to check out  
illustrated books

children's story  
time

### Spanish

bibliotecario(a)  
disponible/no disponible  
escritorio de sacar libros

fecha de vencimiento

vencido  
tarjeta de la biblioteca

renovar  
sacar

libros con ilustraciones

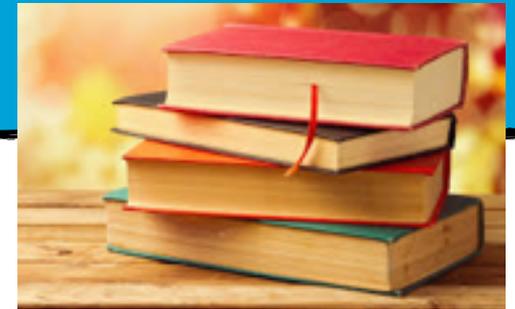
programa de narración de cuentos para niños

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# I Can Read in Spanish AND English!

Encouraging literacy in children's first language to strengthen their English and literacy skills



## Myths About Bilingual Literacy

**Myth:**  
Bilingualism delays children's development of language skills and literacy.

**Fact:**  
Children who learn more than one language have more efficient cognitive processing for language and are better prepared for school.

**Myth:**  
Learning a language besides English hurts a child's proficiency and achievement in English.

**Fact:**  
Proficiency in a first language BEFORE English provides children with the cognitive and language tools they need to learn and gain proficiency in English.

**Myth:**  
Immersion is the most efficient way for a child to learn English.

**Fact:**  
Children need support in their first language. Immersion in English can actually hinder the process of learning the language.

## Why is literacy in a child's primary language important?

When children are learning to read, they are developing the specific cognitive skills that help them process, comprehend, and produce language.

### Then why does the language matter?

Children who speak another language besides English at home will learn English more quickly and easily when they are supported by complete comprehension and fluency in that language. When children are fluent in their first language, they have already gained the cognitive and language tools they need to speak and read English; those skills will transfer to any language, allowing children to focus completely on learning English without needing to develop reading skills at the same time. In fact, research encourages children to learn to read in their primary language first, then learn to speak English, and only then learn to read English. Otherwise, they are learning English without cognitive support, causing incomplete acquisition of English and fading of their first language.

**Children's first language offers valuable knowledge and skills that they can use!**

## What can parents do to support literacy in their primary language at home?

Read as many books written in your first language with your child as you can this summer; set a goal and keep track! When you finish a book, play a game to develop children's comprehension skills and let them practice their vocabulary.



- \* I Spy.../Veo, veo...
- \* memory and recall games/En el cuento hay...

Or you can play games in any language that improve vocabulary and listening and reading skills within your daily routines.



- \* "trash"ketball: child reads or defines a word on a flashcard and shoots paper into the trashcan like a basketball for correct answers
- \* vacuum games: child reads a word on a scrap of paper or finds the word the parent reads before vacuuming the scrap