



Supporting your child's Arabic — when you speak little or none

For parents who grew up in the diaspora, mixed-heritage families, and anyone learning alongside their child.

● You don't need to be the teacher

Your tutor handles the teaching — your job is encouragement. Children whose parents show warm, consistent interest tend to stay engaged far longer than those pushed to perform. Asking "show me what you learned" matters more than knowing the answer yourself.

● Let your child teach you

Ask your child to teach you one word after each lesson. Reversing roles is powerful: it turns their new knowledge into pride, and it quietly builds a habit of speaking Arabic aloud at home — even in families where no adult speaks it.

● Make Arabic visible at home

Print the free Nanour alphabet chart and colour poster and put them somewhere busy — the fridge, the hallway. A child who walks past Arabic letters every day starts to treat them as normal and familiar, not as a subject that only exists during lessons.

● Use the lesson summaries

After every lesson you'll receive a short summary of what your child practised and what to try next. You don't need any Arabic to use it — mention one thing from it at dinner ("you learned the word for lion?") and your child feels seen.

● Mixed heritage is a strength, not a conflict

If your home has two languages or cultures, Arabic doesn't have to compete. Children can grow up comfortable in more than one identity, and hearing "I'm proud you're learning Nana's language" from the non-Arabic-speaking parent often carries the most weight of all.

● Small and steady wins

Ten minutes of relaxed practice most days should do more than an hour of pressure once a week. If a week goes badly, let it go — consistency over months is what builds a bilingual child, not perfection every day.

