About The Hanen Centre

Founded in 1975, The Hanen Centre is a Canadian not-for-profit charitable organization with a global reach. Our mission is to provide parents, caregivers, early childhood educators and Speech-Language Pathologists/Therapists with the knowledge and training they need to help young children develop the best possible language, social and literacy skills. This includes children with or at risk of language delays, autistic children or children who may benefit from social communication support.

We do this by:

- Creating programs in which groups of parents and other caregivers learn how to promote children's communication development during everyday activities
- Training Speech-language Pathologists/Therapists to lead Hanen Programs® and to use the Hanen approach in their day-to-day work with families
- Developing outstanding, user-friendly materials for parents and professionals that break down the latest research into practical, usable strategies
- Participating in leading-edge research in our field to ensure that our programs are evidence-based

For more information on The Hanen Centre and the *It Takes Two to Talk* Program, visit our website at www.hanen.org.

The Hanen Centre®
HELPING **YOU** HELP CHILDREN COMMUNICATE

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It Takes Two to Talk®

The Hanen Program® for Parents of Children with Language Delays

Help turn every moment of your child's life into an opportunity to communicate

Information for Parents

The Hanen Centre®
HELPING **YOU** HELP CHILDREN COMMUNICATE

It Takes Two to Talk®

The Hanen Program®
for Parents of Children with Language Delays

About the It Takes Two to Talk® Program

It Takes Two to Talk is a program for parents of young children who have language delays.

It Takes Two to Talk recognizes:

- the importance of involving parents in their child's early language intervention
- the need to help children and families as early as possible in a child's life

This evidence-based program, which was developed by The Hanen Centre, is well-known around the world. Studies on the *It Takes Two to Talk* Program have shown that it is effective and that, when parents learn to use the program's strategies, their children's communication skills improve.

It Takes Two to Talk is led by a Hanen Certified speech-language pathologist/therapist who has received specialized training from The Hanen Centre.

Why Parents are Involved in the It Takes Two to Talk® Program

Parents are the most important people in their child's life. One of the greatest gifts parents can give their child is the help they need to communicate and connect with the world. In the *It Takes Two to Talk* Program, you learn practical and powerful strategies to help your child communicate and interact during everyday routines and activities. It is within these familiar, real-life interactions with you that your child's communication skills will grow.

What Parents Learn in the It Takes Two to Talk® Program

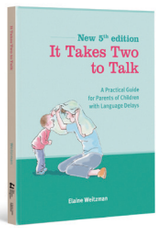
- how your child communicates right now and the next steps to take
- what motivates your child to communicate
- how to engage your child in back and forth conversations, even before they can talk
- how to turn everyday activities into opportunities for your child to learn language
- how to fine-tune what you say so your child can understand you and learn new words and ideas

What the It Takes Two to Talk® Program Offers:

- A consultation for you and your child with a Hanen Certified Speech-Language Pathologist/Therapist before the program begins
- A series of informative and personal classes for small groups of parents
- Three individual consultations with your Hanen Certified Speech-Language Pathologist/Therapist during which:
  - you discuss communication goals and specific strategies for your child
  - you are video recorded interacting with your child during an everyday activity. This video is then reviewed and discussed with you so you can "see" what is helping and what else you can do to to help your child learn

Program Materials

The *It Takes Two to Talk* Program is supported by a beautifully illustrated parent guidebook that follows the program's content in a practical and easy-to-understand format.



What Parents and Professionals Say

"I have just completed *It Takes Two to Talk*. What a difference this has made to the quality of life for my little girl. She is more confident and will initiate a conversation and join in activities. Several weeks ago she would not have done so."

Patricia, mother of four-year-old Kelly

"It is a big commitment in terms of time, but soon becomes part of your life. You don't sit down and 'do Hanen'; you incorporate it into everyday life. It changed everything."

Lisa, mother of two-year-old George

"The *It Takes Two to Talk* Program has given life a whole new meaning—it's brighter, happier, less confusing/frustrating. We have learned new and wonderful ways to communicate with our daughter and she with us."

A parent in County Westmeath, Ireland

"The [*It Takes Two to Talk*] Program works because it takes advantage of the way that children naturally learn to communicate — that is, through interaction with the parents. It's easy to understand, accept and learn too."

Louis Rossetti, PhD
Speech-language pathologist and author of *Communication Intervention: Birth to Three.*

As you learn the strategies in the It Takes Two to Talk *Program, you then practice them with your child in many different situations. By the time the program is over, you'll have a whole new set of skills that you can use every day with your child.*

The It Takes Two to Talk® Program

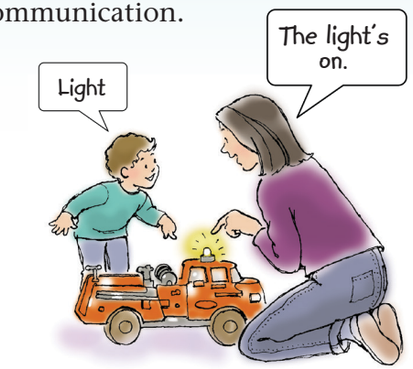
What you will learn:

1. Let Your Child Lead

You'll learn more about how your child expresses their feelings, needs and interests. You'll learn how to get face to face with your child so you can OBSERVE what they're doing, WAIT for them to communicate with you (with or without words) and LISTEN to what they are telling you.

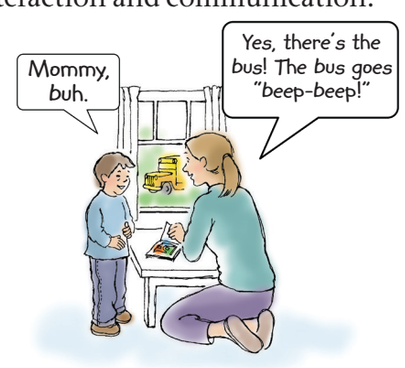
2. Follow Your Child's Lead

You'll learn how to respond immediately to what your child tells you in ways that help them learn language. When you follow your child's lead, you build their confidence and encourage even more communication.



3. Take Turns to Keep the Interaction Going

You'll learn how to take turns back and forth and have simple conversations with your child. You'll also learn how to adjust everyday routines that you and your child already enjoy to create more opportunities for interaction and communication.



4. Add Language to the Interaction

You'll learn how to fine-tune your language according to your child's stage of communication, to help them express themself better and learn about the world. You'll also learn how to highlight words to make it easier for your child to learn and remember them.