

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 and those with developmental challenges such as Autism Spectrum Disorder.



www.hanen.org

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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



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 children (birth to 5) 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 he or she needs 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

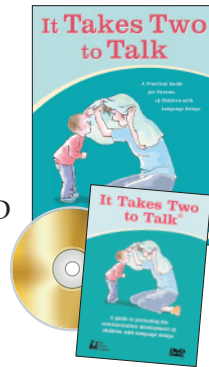
- how your child communicates right now and the next steps to take
- what motivates your child to communicate
- how to engage your child in back and forth conversations, even before he can talk
- how to turn everyday activities into opportunities for your child to learn language
- how to fine-tune what 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 videotaped 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 help your child learn.

Resource Materials

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



What Parents and Professionals Say About the *It Takes Two to Talk* Program

“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
Professor of Communicative Disorders
University of Wisconsin*

*As you learn the strategies in the *It Takes Two to Talk* Program, you will have a chance to 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.*



It Takes Two to Talk[®]

What Parents Learn:

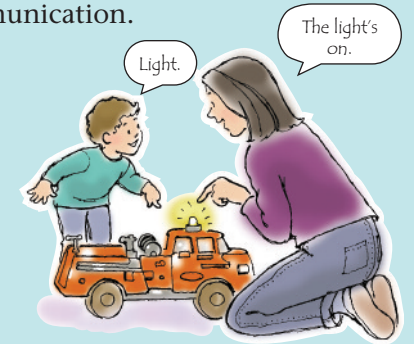
1. Let Your Child Lead

You’ll learn more about how your child expresses his feelings, needs and interests. You’ll learn how to get face to face with your child so you can OBSERVE what he’s doing, WAIT for him to communicate with you (with or without words) and LISTEN to what he is 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 him learn language. When you follow your child’s lead, you build his 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 add words to the interaction to help your child express himself 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.

