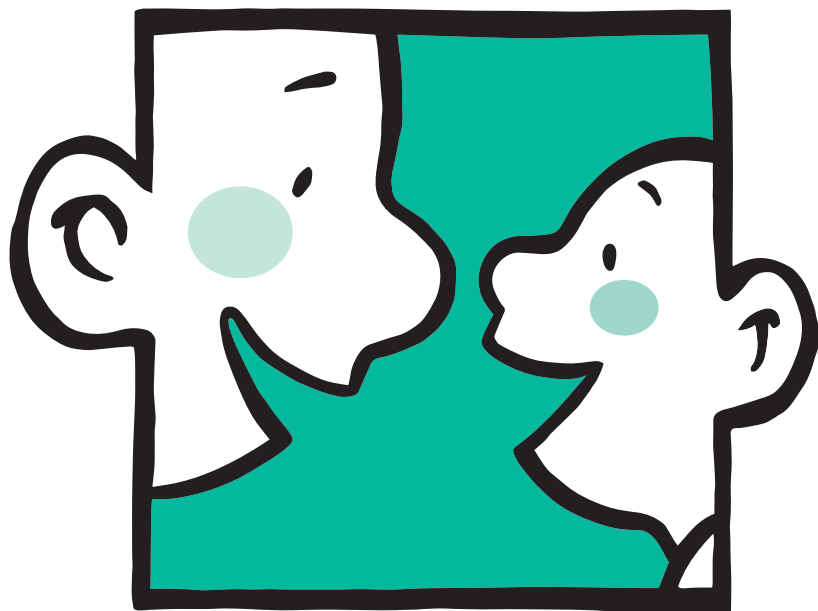


PAM

Parle Avec Moi



Speak with me / Parle Avec Moi (PAM)

THE PAM PROGRAM IN PRACTICE



Between the ages of 0 to 4, children learn the basics of spoken language. This is the foundation upon which their future learning will rest. It is therefore particularly important to stimulate children's communication skills during the first years of life. As this period of language discovery corresponds to the time covered by our pre-school services, the City of Vernier has trained all of its childcare professionals to accompany the language development of babies and toddlers. This measure aims to strengthen equal opportunities.

LANGUAGE IN EVERYDAY SITUATIONS IN OUR PRE-SCHOOL SERVICES

Whenever in their care, our staff members stimulate children's language skills using various techniques:

- Capturing a child's attention and speaking to her at eye-level.
- Valuing and encouraging the child each time he speaks.
- Putting words to what children and adults are doing (especially when they say little or are not talking yet).
- Repeating words produced by a child within a short simple sentence.
- Making sure to use short sentences.
- Asking open-ended questions and waiting for the child to answer.
- Respecting a child's need to learn at her own pace.
- Valuing the language that a child speaks at home as much as possible.

WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN

Our childcare professionals regularly organise language workshops. Attended by small groups of 2 to 4 children, these workshops create special, intimate opportunities for language development. They create unique spaces for conversation that stimulate both language production and comprehension. Various materials are used depending on each child's interests, such as games, a book, etc.

CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH FAMILIES

From the very start of a child's time at one of our childcare institutions, parents are informed about the PAM approach. These exchanges strengthen collaboration in support of children's language development.

What can parents do?

- Express yourself in the language that comes most spontaneously, and in which you feel most comfortable.
- Take advantage of everyday situations to speak with your child when bathing, eating, shopping, getting dressed, etc.
- Look at books together, read or tell stories, sing nursery rhymes.
- Play games that your child is interested in.
- Organize activities with your child's friends.



MAIN CONTACTS AND RESOURCES IN GENEVA

Our childcare teams are always available to help answer your questions and guide you according to your needs. Other key contact points are:

- **Your child's paediatrician**
- **Consultation en Logopédie (Speech Therapy Services) (University of Geneva)**
Children, teenagers
Specific language difficulties
For appointments: **022 379 80 65**
Monday 10am-12pm / 2pm-4pm, Tuesday and Friday 10am-12pm
consultation-logo@unige.ch
- **Centres de consultation de l'Office médico-pédagogique (OMP)**
Preschool children
Development difficulties, including those related to language
Location: the centre closest to your child's domicile
For appointments: **022 388 67 00**
- **Unité de guidance infantile (Geneva University Hospital, HUG)**
Children from 0 to 5 years and (future) parents
Development difficulties, including those related to language, parent-child bonding and parenthood
For appointments: **022 372 89 89**
Monday to Friday, 9am-12pm / 1pm-5pm
- **Geneva Association of Independent Speech Therapists - ALIGE**
Children, teenagers
Development difficulties, including those related to language
For appointments: **022 735 33 28**
cepitl.ge@bluewin.ch

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