

Hello



Nǐ hǎo!

¡Hola!

Konnichiwa!

Gia soo!



ELLA participation

Your child has been exploring language and culture with the Polyglots characters through a series of seven play-based ELLA apps that align with the Early Years Learning Framework and the Australian Curriculum. We hope they have enjoyed interacting with these engaging characters, and that they take their new skills and interest in language and culture into the next phase of their education.

What families say ...

'It has been lovely to see this learning translate into real-life situations, for example, at the dinner table, he has said "I'm hungry" in Indonesian.'

(Family in the Australian Capital Territory)

Bonjour!

5,000 ELLA preschools

Merhaba!

'We love that the apps are so user friendly and engaging for our daughter.'

(Family in Tasmania)

Why learn a language?

'Just as our bodies function better with a regular physical workout, our brains function better with regular mental exercise. Learning a language involves memorising rules and vocabulary, which helps strengthen our "mental muscle".'

– Professor John Hajek, School of Languages and Linguistics, the University of Melbourne

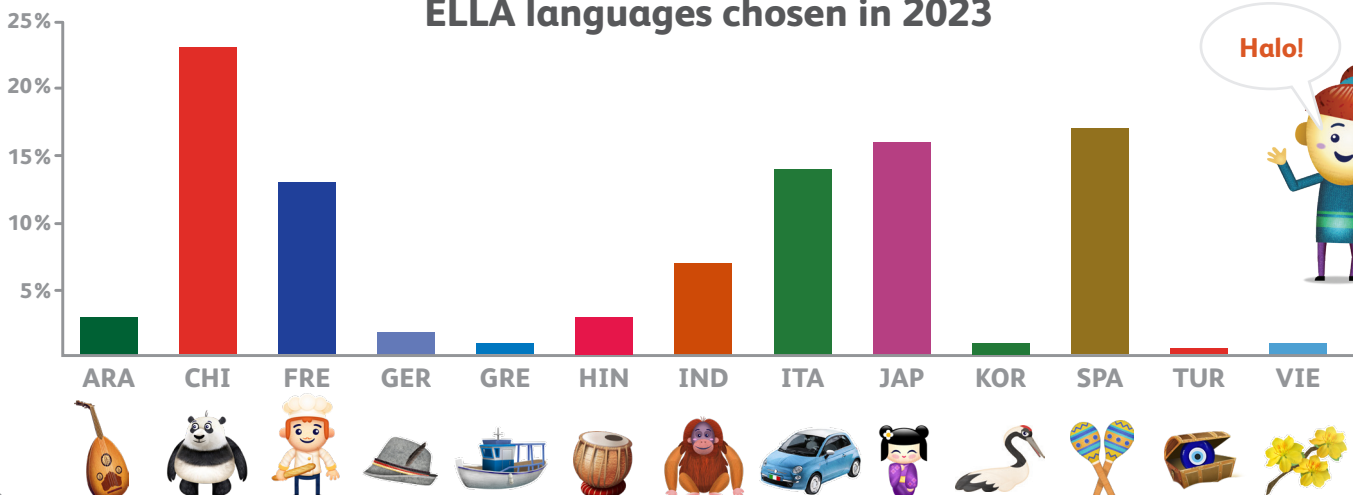
Exposure to another language provides your child with many skills that will be beneficial at school and for lifelong learning. Some of these benefits are:

- literacy skills: listening to sounds, distinguishing between sounds and adding to understanding about how language systems work
- confidence in learning new things in new ways and trying unfamiliar activities
- concentrating and persisting
- asking for help and helping others
- digital and technical literacy skills
- cognitive (intellectual) development: exercising the brain and improving memory.

Xin chào!



ELLA languages chosen in 2023



Halo!

namaste!





Support for families

Families are the first teachers in children's lives. That is why we have created a Support for families page on the ELLA website: www.ella.edu.au.

This page gives you ELLA resources you can use at home, including:

- App 1 'Hello' greetings song video and lyrics
- a video that shows part of App 1 in action
- an activity where you can select up to 13 characters and hear them say 'hello' to you in their language
- games that you or the preschool can print out
- tip sheets called *Everyday ELLA ideas*. These sheets will help your child learn more about different cultures.

ELLA report card

Most popular learning experiences

- Make a cake (App 3)
- Colour and create (App 2)
- Face painter (App 5)



Most popular item in Playmat (App 1)

Soccer



Number of drinks made in the Juice bar activity (App 4)

173,068



While enjoying the ELLA learning experiences, children have:

- listened to and used the language they are learning
- demonstrated understanding of the language to successfully play the learning experiences in the apps
- listened carefully to sounds in words, an important skill for all literacy tasks
- used language away from the apps in their play, demonstrating understanding of the language
- corrected the educators' pronunciation, displaying confidence in language use!

Are you interested to know what learning experiences your child enjoyed the most in the ELLA apps? Contact your child's teacher to find out.

To find out more about the ELLA apps, go to the [Explore Apps page](#) on the ELLA website.

Everyday ELLA ideas for counting

Teaching simple counting is easy and fun. Saying numbers in order from memory is called rote counting. Counting in a different language is a memory game that is fun for language learning and maths. It can help children gain a starting point for language learning and maths. Watch your child's excitement as you learn to count together in another language!

Everyday counting

Make counting part of your day:

- Count the socks as you sort them.
- Count apples as you put them in the supermarket trolley.
- Count people, cars or bikes going past.

Solve simple problems

Asking your child to solve simple problems helps to give meaning to counting:

- If there are four people having afternoon tea, how many biscuits will we need?
- Get the table for dinner. How many plates, forks and spoons will we need?

Play 'number soup'

Practice counting with this simple game.

Equipment

- 1 large bowl or wok
- 1 jar of tongs or chopsticks
- 4-5 small containers, each holding items from home, such as marbles, shells, pasta, sprats, milk bottle lids, buttons or pom-poms. These are your 'ingredients'.

Instructions

1. Your child says, 'Tell me a number for the soup!'
2. You use a number between 1 and 10 in the chosen language, for example, 'Two!'.
3. Your child chooses the tongs or chopsticks to count 2 of each ingredient into the bowl for you.
4. With your child, count the soup in your chosen language.
5. Together, prepare to eat the soup!

Print the number charts to learn to count with your child in a new language!

Everyday ELLA ideas for cooking

Cooking is more than just preparing food. It is a reason to celebrate, a chance to come together with family and friends.

Introducing your child to food enjoyed by people from a variety of cultures:

- encourages them to be proud of their country
- promotes acceptance of human differences

Most children learn best by using hands-on activities. Making delicious, shared dishes gives your child a way to see, smell, feel and taste a culture.

When you cook with your child, choose food from as many cultures as possible. Thank your child as capable and responsible by helping them help you measure, cut and mix. Share the dish with your family or friends, and encourage your child to share a bit of what they have learnt about it.

Here are some cultural dishes that appear in the ELLA apps. You might like to try making them at home!

Cultural foods

Baklava
Arabic
These sweets are made of layers of filo pastry with simple nuts or pistachios, honey, vanilla, saffron, cinnamon and orange blossom.

Noodles
Chinese
In China, long noodles symbolise long life. It is thought that you can eat the noodles while cooking them and you will live longer without being brought down.

Black forest cake (Schwarzwaldkuchen)
German
The black forest cake is a sponge for chocolate cake that is soaked with cherry syrup and filled and covered with whipped cream, cherries and chocolate shavings. It is named after the Black Forest region of Germany where cherries are grown.



ELLA in action



At Aspire Early Education Cranbourne West, the children look at the way different languages are written and practise saying words for fruit in Chinese.

Image credit: Willa Wang, Aspire Early Education Cranbourne West, VIC



At Wollongong City Community Preschool, the children use App 4: *The Polyglots at the Zoo* as part of their imaginative play.

Image credit: Anita Nepia, Wollongong City Community Preschool, NSW



At Uranquinty Preschool, the children use colour words in Indonesian and use sand, shells and fish for counting.

Image credit: Louise Grigg, Uranquinty Preschool, NSW



The children at Anzac Terrace Primary School use cooking experiences to engage with a diversity of cultures, including Japanese.

Image credit: Sue DeWitt, Anzac Terrace Primary School, WA