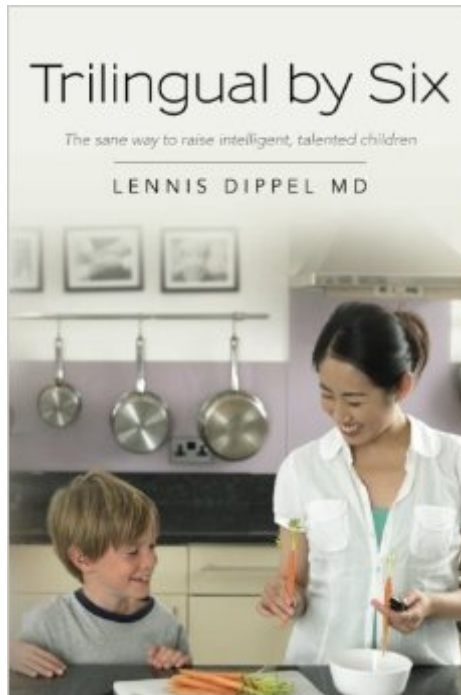


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# Trilingual By Six: The Sane Way To Raise Intelligent, Talented Children



## Synopsis

For parents who want their children to become intelligent and successful, accepting the common dogma might not be the best idea. Academic preschools will gladly take your money, but most leading experts do not feel that early reading or math confers any long-term educational advantage. Languages, on the other hand, are different. While it's not a popular or reaffirming observation, a child who isn't already multilingual by the first grade, probably never will be—particularly in the American setting. *Trilingual by Six* explores this still controversial reality and meticulously develops a very novel plan of action for parents who want to do something about it. In the modern, increasingly global age, virtually all speaking children can grow up multilingual, and their future careers may very well depend on it. All they need is an astute parent who has managed to connect a few simple dots, who has discovered the overlooked but absolutely abundant resources right in the neighborhood.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As someone who has studied eight languages formally and worked often as an ESL tutor and teacher, I've always had a passionate interest in linguistics. I had prided myself on being up to date on the best ways to teach and learn foreign languages for both children and adults, and found myself somewhat skeptical that children can be trilingual before age six. If it can be done, why isn't anyone else doing it? Surely conventional wisdom, and all of formal language training, can't be THAT wrong. Dippel, somehow, turned everything I knew about foreign language acquisition on its head. Reviewing all available scientific linguistic literature with his characteristic modesty and

humor, Dippel convinced me that not only did all of formal language training miss the boat, it was never near the right time to board in the first place. If you think about it, how many of us can speak a foreign language fluently from taking classes or listening to audio-visual media? The best we get from that is broken phrases. If you want your children to be natively fluent in multiple languages, you have to capitalize on the time when their brains are deep in the throes of primary language learning: when they are still babies. It makes sense. That's when they are biologically most malleable to language formation. But who has time or resources to teach babies? And what if the parent doesn't speak any other languages? Dippel, again, has the answer--an answer that isn't just conjecture derived from ivory towers, but one that he has successfully implemented himself with his own children: immigrant babysitters. Through surprisingly moving and warm portraits of his family and people he has met, he helps us see immigrant enclaves as untapped language resources.

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