# But Why: A Podcast for Curious Kids 

What's it like to be bilingual?
December 15, 2023

## Jane 00:20

This is But Why: A Podcast for Curious Kids, from Vermont Public. I'm Jane Lindholm. On this show, we take questions from curious kids just like you, and it's our job to find answers. The next time you ride a bus, a train, an airplane...take a moment and listen to the voices around you. Are they all speaking the same language? Probably not. Almost half the people in the world speak more than one language. And we know that includes a lot of you who listen to But Why. So we thought it might be fun to do an episode about all the different languages we speak and what it's like to speak more than one language. And we're going to hear from a lot of you. We asked those of you who speak multiple languages to send us a voice memo talking a little bit about what that's like. And more than 70 of you responded, like Sophia who speaks both English and Filipino and lives in the Philippines.

## Sophia 01:15

The reason why I enjoy being a bilingual is because I'm able to connect with other Filipinos in my country, and learn more about my natural roots.

## Leah 01:26

My name is Leah and I'm 10 years old.
Fiji 01:29
My name is Fiji and I'm 12 years old.
Fiji 01:32
We live in Kratié province, Cambodia.
Fiji 01:35
And we're sisters.

## Leah 01:37

We know three languages: English, Khmer and Kraol.
Fiji 01:42
One of the good things about being trilingual is you can understand more people and it's also fun learning other languages.

Leah 01:51

One word in Khmer is สูึ โี (suostei), which means hello.

Fiji 01:54
In Kraol, [says phrase in Kraol] means "What do you have to eat?" And it's a greeting.

## Audrey 02:02

Hi, I'm Audrey. What I love about being bilingual is that I have a secret language against my mom. My favorite word is in French: bibliothèque. That means library.

## Jane 02:04

Ooh, a secret language that your mom doesn't know. That's pretty good.

## Gouga 02:16

My name is Gouga. I speak three languages: Polish, Portuguese and English. What I like about speaking three languages, is it makes me special. I get to learn about three cultures. And I get to eat burgers for breakfast, churrasco for lunch, and pierogi for dinner.

## Naya 02:37

Hello, my name is Naya. I am eight years old. I know three languages: Arabic, French and English. Knowing different languages is important to me, because I can communicate with people who don't speak English or other languages.

## Jane 02:56

Naya, that's a great one, being able to speak to people who might not speak English or might not speak French. You can have so many choices when you speak multiple languages.

## Sophie 03:07

Hi, my name is Sophie. I'm seven years old. I live in Canada, B.C. And what I like about speaking two languages is that you get to talk more than normal. And you can go more places and talk to those people. And what "horse" is in French is "cheval." Bye, thank you.

## Jane 03:33

We also got notes from a lot of you teaching the rest of us how to say something in one of the other languages you speak.

Francisco 03:40
My name is Francisco. I'm six years old. I from Buenos Aires, Argentina. What I like about speaking more than one language is to understand YouTube gaming videos and podcasts like this one. Also English music. A phrase in Spanish could be "¿Pero por qué?" Which means, "But Why?"

Leah 04:03
Hi, my name is Leah. I'm six years old. And I live in New York. I speak English and Yiddish. There is a phrase in Yiddish, "Ikh bin kiut." It means "I am cute."

## Hannah 04:16

Hello, my name is Hannah. I'm 10 years old. I'm from South Korea. I speak English and Korean. A traditional way to say hello in Korean is "밥 먹었어 (bap meogeosseo)," but it literally means, "Did you eat?"

## Maya 04:32

Hi, my name is Maya. And I'm four and half years old. I'm from New Jersey and I speak English and Spanish. I'm gonna teach you guys how to say "sloth" in Spanish. Say it with me: "oso perezoso."

## Marwan 04:46

Hello, my name is Marwan. I am eight years old, and I live in France. I speak French and English. I like to tell secrets to friends that speak the same language as me. I usually think in French, even when I speak English. Sometimes it's not easy to continue speaking English, because all my day was in French.

## Marwan's Adult 05:21

And what word do you want to teach to the But Why listeners?

## Marwan 05:26

"But Why," which is, "mais pourquoi." Repeat after me: "mais pourquoi." Again, "mais pourquoi."

## Jane 05:36

I'm going to be working on all of those for the next three weeks. And we're going to have more at the end of the episode. So stay tuned if you want to learn some more phrases in other languages. In addition to all of you who are experts at speaking your languages, we called up someone who's an expert in languages in general. Anna Babel is a professor of Hispanic Linguistics at The Ohio State University. A linguistics professor or a linguist is somebody who studies languages.

## Anna Babel 06:04

I have the coolest job in the world because I get to go around and talk to people all the time. And then I think about how people talk, and try to understand how people talk differently and what we know about people by listening to the way that they talk. My specialty is looking at who we are, and how our identities, our personal identity, affects the way that we talk. So, I'm interested in that because a lot of us speak more than one language. And so sometimes we can speak two languages at one time, we can switch back and forth. Sometimes we save one language for certain spaces and another language for other spaces. So there's a lot of different ways to be bilingual, to speak more than one language. But all of them are interesting.

## Jane 06:47

When it comes to speaking more than one language, Anna says there's no hard and fast definition of how well you have to speak before you can call yourself bilingual (someone who speaks two languages), or multilingual (someone who speaks many languages0.

Anna Babel 07:02

I know a lot of kids can say nǐ hǎo, or a lot of kids can say hola, because of Dora. That means that you already speak a part of the language. And there's not like a certain point, you know, there's not like a line where you cross the line, and all of a sudden you speak Spanish or you speak Mandarin. What usually what happens is that people learn more and more pieces, and they start learning how to put those pieces together. And so there's kind of different steps that you go through. One is knowing and recognizing some words. Another step is being able to have a short conversation. "How old are you?" "What grade are you in?" Maybe, "What's the weather doing where you live?" And from there, people just get more and more complex, and they start to get more and more different topics that they can talk about.

## Luca 07:47

My name is Luca. I'm 10 years old. I live in Sao Paulo, Brazil. And my question is, how many languages can a person speak fluently?

## Anna Babel 07:57

Yeah, as far as we know, there's no limit. So it's very common for people to speak three or four languages. If you speak more than five or six languages, then polyglot is this word that comes from Greek and it means many tongues. There have been people who speak 70 or 80 languages.

## Jane 08:14

Can you imagine keeping 70 or 80 different languages and all those vocabularies straight in your own head?

## Anna Babel 08:20

You know, it's amazing what people can do with language. We're kind of little language learning machines. One thing is being able to speak a lot of languages, but also sometimes people understand languages that they don't speak. So I'm thinking, if you speak 70 or 80 languages, how many could you understand? Like, you could probably understand double that number.

## Jane 08:38

There are more than 7000 languages currently being spoken around the world. And Anna says you can probably keep learning languages your whole life; there's no limit to the number you can speak. Sometimes you learn multiple languages because the people you live with, like your parents or caregivers, speak different languages. So maybe you speak one language at home and a different language in the shops or when you're out and about with your friends.

## Evan, Tobi and Martin 09:02

Hi, I'm Evan. I'm four years old. Hola, soy Tobi and I'm nine years old. Hallo, ich bin Martin and I'm six years old. We live in Macungie, Pennsylvania. And we speak three languages: Español, English, and Deutsch German. We live in a multicultural home where we learn the languages from the countries our parents are from. We speak all languages because our parents always talk to us in the languages. Adiós. Goodbye. Auf wiedersehen.

Julian 09:47

My name is Julian and I'm five years old.
Julian's Adult 09:50
What languages do you speak?
Julian 09:52
English and Spanish.
Julian's Adult 09:54
What do you like about being able to speak more than one language?
Julian 09:59
I can talk to more people.
Julian's Adult 10:02
What more people can you talk to?
Julian 10:04
Like, my teacher, grandparents, my family in Mexico.
Julian's Adult 10:10
That's right.
Julian 10:11
And my cousins.
Julian's Adult 10:12
Who teaches you Spanish?
Julian 10:14
My teacher, and my grandparents.

## Iam 10:17

My name is Iam, and I am 11 years old. And I speak English and Spanish. Because my dad is from the USA, and my mom is from Mexico. One thing I like about being bilingual is that I can understand people both in Mexico and in the USA. A phrase that I would like to teach you in Spanish, is: "Yo te quiero más," which means "I love you more" in Spanish. I really like this saying because my mom always says loves me. Now, I say I love her more.

## Iam 10:18

Some kids learn to speak a new language that maybe no one in their home speaks. There are language immersion schools where you learn a new language and go to school at the same time. And we heard from several of you who go to that kind of school.

## Lydia 10：58

Hi，Buy Why，my name is Lydia．I＇m 10 years old and I live in Exeter，Devon，England．I＇m bilingual．I speak French as well as English．I used to go to school in French，although now I don＇t，so I speak French less often，but l＇m still fluent．Something you might not know in French is that＂bonjour＂actually means＂good day＂instead of＂hello．＂So you can＇t really use it in the night．You have to say＂bonsoire．＂ Goodbye．Au revoir！

## Maddie and Sophia 11：25

Hi ，my name is Sophia and I am 14 years old．And my name is Maddie and I＇m 10 years old．We live in Salt Lake City，Utah．We both are fluent in Chinese or zhōngguó rén．We have done the dual immersion program at our school from the age of six，which means that we have spent half of each day at our school learning Chinese．We＇ve even learned subjects like science－－Kēxué－－and math－－Shùxué－－ in Chinese．

## Sophia 11：47

My Chinese name is［unclear］and I have been learning Chinese for nine years．Learning Chinese has helped me appreciate other cultures because I＇m more aware of how different people do different things around the world．It has also given me cool new experiences like talking to tourists that come to visit． Today，I＇m going to teach you how to say＂skiing＂in Chinese because it＇s very popular in Utah．It＇s ＂huáxuě．＂

## Maddie 12：07

My Chinese name is Lu Men Ling and I have been learning Chinese for five years．Speaking Chinese is helping me understand cultures and it is super fun to learn about．I love celebrating their holidays and being able to speak with my sister because me and her have our own secret language．I love cats，so I＇m going to teach you＂cat＂in Chinese．It is＂mao．＂

## Alyssa 12：28

Hi my name is Alyssa．I＇m seven years old．I live in Bluebell，Pennsylvania．I can speak three languages：English，Cantonese，and Vietnamese．What I like about speaking different languages is if you go to a country that speaks that language，you can understand more．And to say＂how are you＂in Cantonese is，＂你好吗 Nǐ hǎo ma？＂And if I＇m going to Vietnam and I＇m saying＂hi＂to my grandma，I can say＂Zhao zhao，Ba．＂

## Tom 13：03

Hello，my name is Tom．I nine and a half years old．And I live in Grenoble，France．I＇m trilingual．I speak Hebrew－－shalom！I speak French－－bonjour．And I speak English．And my question is，why is it easier for kids and adults to learn a new language？

## Micah 13：27

Hi，my name is Micah and I live in New Rochelle and I＇m five years old．And my question is，why do my parents say that it＇s harder to learn a language when you＇re grown up than when you＇re a kid？

Jane 13：43

Both Tom and Micah want to know why sometimes people say it's easier to learn new languages when you're a kid than it is if you're trying to start fresh with a new language when you're an adult.

## Anna Babel 13:54

That is a fact. Kids learn language really easily. Kids are language-learning sponges. We don't know exactly why. Some people think it's because kids brains are just better at learning new things. And some people have said that around 11, 12, 13 is kind of a sharp cut off point when you can't learn new languages as well as you did when you were younger. When an adult is trying to learn a new language, a lot of times the teacher will come in and say like, "No, you're wrong. Red mark. That's bad." But if you think about a baby learning a new language, when you pick up a baby and they start to say words to you, how do you react?

## Jane 14:32

You say, "Oh good job. You're doing so well. Oh, that's so great. Let's try it this way."

## Anna Babel 14:37

So that kind of feedback can make a difference in the motivation that people have when they learn a language.

## Jane 14:42

Learning languages can be a roller coaster, but hang in there. Progress might be slow at first, but effort counts. Remember that everyone started as a beginner at some point. So don't give up. Keep going, keep learning. Every mistake you make is an opportunity to grow and improve. For example, Vera, from Spain, finds English difficult sometimes.

## Vera 15:03

I live in Spain, but I know English because my mom is from America. And it's kind of like, hard for me. Because when I talk a lot of Spanish, like when I go to America, well, I don't really know all of the words because I talked more Spanish. So I need to go and tell my mom how to say it, and blah, blah, okay?

## Jane 15:31

Coming up, we learn new words and phrases in the languages you are teaching us.

## Alexandria 15:36

Hi my name is Alexandria. I live in Blumenau, Santa Catarina, Brazil, and I'm bilingual. This is how you say "good morning, how are you?" in Portuguese. "bom dia. Como vai?"

Alexandria 15:36
Plus, should you learn more than one language?

## Jane 15:57

I'm Jane Lindholm and this is But Why, un podcast para niños curiosos! Hii ni But Why, podikasti kwa watoto wadadisi. That was Spanish and Swahili for: "This is But Why, a podcast for curious kids."

Today we're hearing from so many But Why listeners about what it's like to speak more than one language.

## BREAK 16:03 <br> BREAK

## Karla 16:18

Hi , my name is Naya. I'm nine years old and I live in Yerevan, Armenia. I speak two languages: Armenian and English. I think it's really cool that I speak in two languages because I get to speak to everybody I know, Americans, Armenians, everyone. And I think differently in Armenian because I think about my home, my Armenian traditions, my Armenian family. And in English it's the same thing but only in America. Something that American kids say a lot is, "I love to play with my friends." And in
 het)."

## Karla 16:18

Hi , my name is Karla. I'm 10 years old. I live in Portugal and I can speak three languages. My day is mostly in English. So English feels like I'm walking. It's very easy. At home, I speak Polish with my dad. It feels like jumping. I can do it, but it takes more effort. And finally I can speak French, because I was born in Monaco. French feels like people are welcoming me somewhere new. It makes me feel connected when I use it. French feels like I'm stretching a sore muscle. It feels good, but it takes a lot of energy from me. And finally, we moved to Portugal a year ago. So I'm currently learning Portuguese. Wish me luck.

## Jane 17:57

Who knew that using multiple language is like stretching a muscle. Some of you have also sent us questions about language.

Samuel 18:04
My name is Samuel. I'm from California. My age is four. And my question is: why are languages so important?

## Jane 18:15

Helping us answer your questions and understand how we learn languages and why they're important is Anna Babel. She studies languages as a professor of linguistics.

## Anna Babel 18:25

So every single human being in the world who communicates with other people has a language. And that's kind of amazing, because there's not a lot of things that we can say that we all have in common. But we all have language in common, even if they're different languages. Your language says a lot about who you are and where you come from and who you talk to. And languages have so many different sounds, so many different kinds of words, so much differences in grammar, that it really says something about how much there is that's different about people all over the world, but also how much there is that's the same.

## Jane 19:02

Here's a question from Eva about a specific language.

## Eva 19:05

I live in Yonkers, New York. I am nine years old and my question is why does almost no one speak Quechua?

## Anna Babel 19:15

Actually, a lot of people speak Quechua. It's spoken by eight to ten million people. So Quechua is about the same size as languages like Somali, Swedish, Bulgarian. You might not have heard as much about Quechua because it's still a lot smaller than languages like English or Mandarin or Hindi. And it's not very often taught in schools in the US because it's not a native language of this country. But it is very important in countries like Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia, where it's an official language. It was probably used by the Inca Empire. In fact, we have documents from the Spanish showing that Quechua was used in the area that's now Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia, even before they arrived in the 1500s. So it's a language with a lot of history. And it's also a language that people enjoy speaking because they say it's funny. It's very good for making jokes. It's very expressive. And it's also a language that people use to identify themselves as people who are Quechua. So it's a it's a cultural category, as well as the language category.

## Jane 20:24

I'm glad you mentioned jokes, because that is one really important piece of language is humor and being able to play with words and play with language and use words in different ways to convey different meanings, whether you're speaking sarcastically or making a joke. And when I lived in South America and was communicating constantly in Spanish, which was not my first language, the hardest part for me was to fully convey my own personality and be able to make jokes. You have to have a certain level of fluency to be able to make jokes in a second or third language. And until you can do that, sometimes it feels like, well, people don't really know who you are. It can be really hard when you don't fluently speak another language and you're trying to communicate your personality as well as just say, you know, "Can I have that bag of oranges?" Or "Where does this bus go to?"

## Anna Babel 21:20

Yeah, I think you're right. That's one of the most advanced skills is being able to be funny or being able to be authentic in a language that you're still in the process of learning. So, my daughter speaks Spanish at home. But when she goes to school, in her Spanish class it's sometimes hard for her because they use different words. And it's a lot of things that we don't do at home. But she's really, really good at being funny, being authentic, being respectful, in Spanish.

## Jane 21:50

So when you're talking about, you know, different ways that you can express yourself in different languages, how can we all think about maybe just ways to give people space or or think about them as whole people, even if they're not as fluent in the language that we're communicating together in as maybe we are? Like, maybe your grandparents don't speak English as well as you do, or Chinese as
well as you do. And, you know, we just mentioned it can be hard to bring your whole self to a conversation if you're struggling to find the words. So how can we kind of be friendly to people who we're trying to communicate with, in all these different ways, in different languages?

## Anna Babel 22:29

That's a really good point. Using a language is so much a part of who we are, and of ourselves, that it can be easy to ignore people who don't speak a language that you're using with a lot of ease. So, I remember when I was learning Spanish, I was out with some friends and I think we went to the bus station. And I went to buy a ticket, and one of them turned to me and she said, "Oh, you understand money already." I think it's it's easy to mistake somebody having trouble with the language for not being competent in other ways, or not being able to do simple things. Treating people as people, no matter how they speak is a very important thing to do.

## Mila 23:11

Hi , my name is Mila. I'm five years old. I live in San Diego, California. And my question is, why--how do people communicate if they speak different languages?

## Anna Babel 23:29

There's a lot of ways that we can communicate people without using just language. We can always use gestures. We can always work on a task together. So if we're thinking about grandparents, you can always maybe work on cooking with your grandparents or play a game with your grandparents. We can think creatively about how to communicate with each other even without a common language. You know, people use a lot of eye contact and a lot of facial expressions when they talk anyway. And then I think part of the fun of working with somebody who's speaking a different language is playing guessing games. You can guess at the words that people are trying to tell you and you can teach each other.

Jane 24:14
So what are some good ways to learn new languages? Annabelle has a suggestion for us.

## Annabelle 24:20

I'm 10 years old. I'm from Palm Coast, Florida. I'm trying to learn Spanish. So here's a tip. If there's like a movie that you really like, and you like know every word, put the captions on and watch it in that language. Because that's how I'm trying to learn Spanish.

## Anna Babel 24:36

You know, there's no bad way to learn a language. But definitely the best way to learn it is from other people.

## Jane 24:42

If you're a kid in a family where multiple languages are spoken, or maybe you go to school in one language, but the language that your parents or grandparents or other family members speak is a different language, and you're like, "Ugh, I have to speak in this other language and it's not as easy for me" or "I don't speak this with my friends," or it's maybe kind of embarrassing sometimes that my
friends all speak one language with their families and and I speak a different one, do you have a way for us to think about that in a positive way?

## Anna Babel 25:13

Yeah, I think the the main thing to keep in mind is that it is perfectly normal to speak more than one language or to speak differently at home than in other settings. That is perfectly normal. And so when a kid doesn't understand that, kids can sometimes be hard on other kids, right, when they see something different. I think maybe our job is to open their minds a little bit, to help them understand the world a little bit more completely. And to say, "Hey, in my family, or in my house, this is how we do things. And I think it's probably different in your house. But that doesn't mean that one way is better than another. It just means that we all have differences." We have differences in the way we dress, we have differences in the way we cook, we have differences in the way that we speak to members of our community. And that's all that's all good. That's part of the richness of being a human being.

## Jane 26:07

What if what you actually need is to convince your parents or aunts and uncles,or grandparents or caregivers or foster families that you want to learn their other languages, and they're not teaching you? How can we convince our adults that we want to know the other languages that they know?

## Anna Babel 26:26

You know, it's funny because kids are super sneaky. Kids hear a lot more than adults realize. And what language researchers have found is that even when adults try not to teach their children a certain language, if the adults are speaking it, the children can learn it. So, children do not need permission to learn a language.

## Jane 26:46

So it's okay to kind of sneakily listen to what your adults are saying?
Anna Babel 26:49
It is okay to be a super sneaky spy. And to keep your ears open, and then to use those tools when they're useful to you.

## Jane 27:00

You heard it here, folks: it's okay to be a super sneaky spy and listen to what your adults are saying, if you're trying to learn their language. Now, let's hear from kids on what their experiences learning a second language have been like.

## Evelyn 27:13

Hi, my name is Evelyn. I am five and I'm bilingual in English and Dutch. This week, I was writing my own story book in English with my mum. I wanted to write there was a nice person. But even though I said this out loud, when I looked at my writing, I had not written the word "person" in English, but the word "mens," which means "person" in Dutch. I didn't even realize I had done it!

## Gabriel 27:41

Hi, I am Gabriel. I am seven years old, and I live in London, UK. I am trilingual. At school I speak English, but at home I speak Italian and French. When I was little, I was quadrilingual because I lived in Hong Kong. But I forgot the Hong Kong one. But I need to practice to be able to read and write well. It can be very confusing with a different writing. Here's how you order in English: "Can I have a fish and chips?" In Italian: "Posso avere degli spaghetti al sugo di pomordo?" In French: "Je peux avoir un pain au chocolat s'il vous plaît?" Thank you. Grazie. Merci!

## Jane 28:33

Au revior. Ciao. Bye. All right, want to broaden your language skills a little bit more? Let's get ready to immerse ourselves in the world of languages. So many of you shared with us about the languages you speak and gave us some tips for how to say some easy words and phrases. We've heard some of those throughout the episode, but I still want to know more. So let's hear them.

Haya 28:54
Hi , my name is Haya. I am 5 years old. I am from Lebanon, Beirut. I want to teach you my favorite sentence at Arabic. That is "I love you, Mom." At Arabic, it goes like this: "أحبك يا أمي ( 'uhibuk ya 'umiy Mama)."

Carissa 29:12
Hi, my name is Carissa and I live in Belgium. I am kind of a fifth-lingual. I speak Hindi, Gujarati, English, French and Dutch. And I would like to teach you a Dutch sentence of some basic things you can say. Hello. Goedemorgen. Goedeavond. Hoe is het met je, Ja, dankje wel. I said, "Hello. Good morning. Good evening."

Carissa 29:13
My name is Elena, I'm six years old, I speak Vietnamese and English. This is how you say hello or bye in Vietnamese: Ciao.

## Ella 30:03

My name is Ella. I'm five years old and I'm from Florida. I speak Portuguese and Polish. And I love But Why. [Ella says "I love But Why" in her other languages.]

## Sophie 30:15

Hi , I am Sophie. I live in London, England and I speak French with my mom, Italian with my dad and English with my brother. Do you want to play with me? In Italian, you say, "Vuoi giocare con me?" In French you say, "Voulez-vous jouer avec moi?" And that way we can all play together in a different countries. Merci. Thank you. Grazie!

Noah 31:20
My name is Noah. I'm from Poland.
Noah's Adult 31:23
And what two languages do you speak?

## Noah 31：25

English and Polish．

## Noah＇s Adult 31：27

What word or phrase would you like to teach the But Why audience？

## Maya 31：33

＂Hello，＂you say，＂dzień dobry．＂And＂goodbye，＂you say，＂do widzenia．＂

## Timothe 31：38

Hello，my name is Timothe．I＇m a trilingual．I＇m five years old．I live in Paris．The three languages that I can speak are Chinese，French and English．The things that I like to be a trilingual is I can read lots of different books and talk to different people come from other countries．I can teach you，＂But Why＂in French and Chinese．＂Mais cei pourquoi．＂＂但这就是为什么（Dàn zhè jiùshì wèishéme）．＂

## Lucas 32：20

My name is Lucas and I am six years old．And I am trilingual．I live in Vienna，Austria．I speak German， English and French．＂Hallo＂is＂hello＂in German．And＂bonjour＂is＂hello＂in French．

## Teifi 32：50

Hello，I＇m Teifi．I live in Wales．I am six．Shwmae，fi＇n Teifi．Fi＇n byw yn Cymru．I like speaking two languages because it＇s fun．And because my little brother speaks Welsh，and Mommy doesn＇t，we can have midnight feasts without Mummy knowing what we say．

## Anderson 33：09

Hi ，my name is Anderson and I am seven years old and I live in Newcastle，Washington．And I＇m bilingual．And I can speak English，Chinese，French and Spanish．Aand this is how you say hello in all of them：Hello，你好 Nǐ hǎo，Bonjour，and Hola．And this is my Chinese name：［Says Chinese name］．

## Jane 33：34

That is so amazing．I loved learning all these new phrases and it is so cool to hear you all speaking the languages that you speak at home，at school and out in your communities．Did any of you get inspired to learn a new language from this episode to add to your linguistic repertoire？Let us know．Thanks to Anna Babel for sharing her expertise about languages with us as well in this episode．Anna is a professor of Hispanic linguistics at The Ohio State University．Maybe，if languages really interest you， you will become a linguist someday．

## Jane 34：08

That＇s it for today．Now，if you have a question－－about anything！－－send it to us．We love to help get answers to all kinds of questions．Ask an adult to help you record yourself asking and then send the audio file to questions at butwhykids．org We love hearing your first name，how old you are and where you＇re from，too．The But Why team includes Melody Bodette，Kianna Haskin and me，Jane Lindholm．

Our show is produced at Vermont Public and we're distributed by PRX. Our theme music is by Luke Reynolds. We'll be back in two weeks with an all new episode. Until then, stay curious!!

