

Being Bilingual

When I come to here I feel a little bit nervous. I feel nervous because of all the kids in the classroom. None of the kids know my language. I speak Arabic.

When I come to school here, my teacher Ms. Zanghi give me a paper that has pictures of like going to the bathroom and drinking water. I had to use the pictures because I did not know how to say the words. I had pictures of like feeling good and angry because I did not know how to say how I feel. I was angry too because I don't speak English like everyone else.

I had an Arabic tutor come help me. I liked the tutor that comed here. When she was absent I can't do my work because I don't know how to read the pages. But now when she isn't here and my teacher gives me work I can do it by myself because I am learning English. I go to teachers too that help me learn English. They teach me lots of things in English. When I first comed here my teachers would talk at the phone and it would say it in Arabic to me. I didn't like it because when the phone speaks in my language everyone thinks it was funny.

I like English and Arabic because I can speak two languages. I speak Arabic at home but I teach my mom English too. She is a lot better at English now. I teach my dad English too. He is a little bit good but when he speak English he doesn't focus sometimes. So he need to focus to get better. Sometimes I have to tell him "Dad, that is not how to say it."

Now when I come to school I am not nervous anymore because I know everyone's name and they know my name. I can talk to my friends now. And now when my dad when he talks to the store guys in English I know what he is saying now.

I like being able to speak two languages because I learn from them. I want to fix cars when I grow up. My dad says that if work hard in school and learn English I can be a car fixer.

And I can't believe I filled up this whole paper.

By Abdullah Jassanee