People who know more than one language are able to pay attention for 20% longer on average than their one-language-speaking friends. (Now that certainly would come in handy during a long class period, wouldn’t it?)

5 WAYS BEING BILINGUAL MAKES YOU SMARTER

In a Florida study, kids who knew two languages scored an average of 23 to 34 points higher on both math and language arts standardized tests than kids who only spoke one language.

Babies raised in bilingual homes demonstrated superior cognitive ability—specifically the ability to seek new stimuli more quickly—as early as seven months old. (And according to the National Academy of Sciences, that’s an early indicator of a high IQ.)

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The number of cubic millimeters of gray matter that bilingual people have in the parietal regions of their brains. (In plain English, people who speak more than one language have more dense gray matter in their brains, making them smarter.)