



16 November, 2014

Dear Family and Friends of the Multiple Birth Community,

Happy International Multiple Birth Awareness Week! Let's help our multiples shine as individuals!

Wherever you live in the world, some of the issues of raising multiples are the same. How do we foster the unique bond between our multiple birth children while at the same time encouraging the individual development of each child? ICOMBO believes that multiples, just like other children, have the right to be respected and treated as individuals with their own needs, preferences and dislikes.

The focus of this week is to encourage our multiples to become strong independent individuals, whilst maintaining their unique multiple bond. It can be a challenge to develop the individualisation within the strong multiple bond that exists. As parents and caregivers I believe we have a responsibility to assist our multiple birth children to develop the ability to make decisions independently of their co-multiples.

Sometimes being an individual means following the same path as their multiple sibling, and sometimes it means following a very different path. The key is to ensure that the multiples have each made their own choices independently and not as part of a set.

Perhaps during the week, you will find some ways to help your multiples shine as individuals. Take this opportunity to share your story – through activities within your group, or through social media. Perhaps some families will find inspiration in your journey.

For further information, visit our website <http://icombo.org/international-awareness-week-2014/> or contact me at [chair@icombo.org](mailto:chair@icombo.org).

Have a great week,

Regards

Monica Rankin  
Chairperson - ICOMBO

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