

Talking Toddlers - we need you!

Did you know that children learn an average of one new word every 1 to 2 waking hours during the first five years of their life! How do children do this? Researchers at The University of Sydney are conducting a study to find this out!

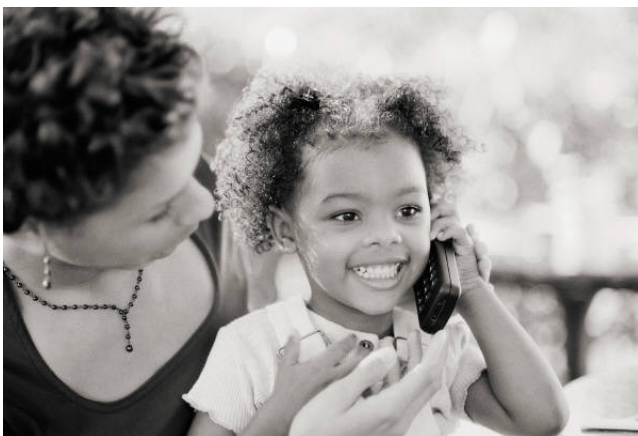


WHAT IS THE STUDY ABOUT?

Most children learn words effortlessly. As adults we marvel at how quickly and easily this seems to occur. By contrast, children who are late to talk, may struggle to learn words.

We know that typically developing children tap into cues in their environment in order to learn words. Some of these cues might be hand movements or gestures that we use when we talk, and how we pronounce or say words.

We would like to find out whether hand gestures cues about the shape of an object and/or cues from how a word is spoken help children learn new words.



The University of Sydney
Discipline of Speech Pathology

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE STUDY?

We need typically developing children aged between 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 years, who are learning to speak Australian English only. If your child is or will be in that age range in the next few months, and you are interested in our study, please contact us for more detailed information.

WHAT DOES THE STUDY INVOLVE?

Two 60 minute appointments - both conducted by a qualified speech pathologist, at the Communication Disorders Treatment and Research Clinic, The University of Sydney campus in Lidcombe.

- during the 1st appointment, your child will play with some new toys during play. The speech pathologist will talk with your child about these toys and ask your child some questions. You will be allowed to stay with your child at all times.
- during the 2nd appointment, your child's speech and language skills will be assessed. You will receive a written summary of your child's results.

For participating in our study, you will receive a complimentary DVD about speech and language development and a brief report about your child's communication skills. Your child will also receive a small gift for participating!

FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION CONTACT

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Web site address: http://www.fhs.usyd.edu.au/speech_pathology/laboratories/index.shtml