

Child Language Intervention, Measurement, and Best practices (CLIMB) Lab
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Department of Hearing and Speech Sciences

Dear Parent:

Your child is invited to participate in a research study about how children who are deaf and hard of hearing learn words. The study is called "Increasing Word Learning Efficiency in Children who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing through Retrieval Practice." We know that children who are deaf and hard of hearing often have difficulty learning new words. In this study, we will teach your child made-up words for unfamiliar objects under two conditions. We want to know whether providing feedback and spacing words in a certain way help children who are deaf and hard of hearing learn words faster.

If you give consent, your child will complete a speech and language evaluation. The evaluation will determine whether your child is eligible for the study. If so, your child will participate in word learning sessions three times per week. During the word learning sessions an interventionist who is part of the study team will introduce unfamiliar objects. The interventionist will teach your child about them while coloring or engaging in similar activities. The interventionist may or may not provide feedback and may or may not teach one word at a time. Your child will be asked to identify and name these new objects to see how well your child is learning the words and which teaching strategy works best.

These appointments may take place at your child's school or home, the 10th floor of the Vanderbilt Bill Wilkerson Center, or a community location (e.g., library) three times per week, depending on what works best for your child. Each word learning session lasts about 30 to 45 minutes. The sessions can happen during the school day or before or after school. The exact length of the study will depend on your child's rate of progress. We estimate participants will complete the study within three months. If you agree to participate in the study, your child will be video recorded during word learning instruction and assessments. All of your child's responses during sessions will be confidential. We will also ask you to complete an intake form and a brief interview about your child's language history. Participants will receive up to \$200 for compensation for their time.

We hope that you will accept our invitation. If you are interested in your child participating, please complete the brief 3- to 5-minute screening survey by going to <https://redcap.link/WordLearningScreening> (see QR code below). When we receive your survey, we will contact you if your child may be eligible.

If you have any questions, please email climblab1@gmail.com or jena.mcdaniel@vumc.org or call 615-936-5114.

Sincerely,



Jena McDaniel, PhD
 Assistant Professor

Director of Child Language Intervention, Measurement, & Best practices (CLIMB) Lab
 Department of Hearing and Speech Sciences
 Vanderbilt University Medical Center



Scan above for screening survey.

Date of IRB Approval: 07/05/2023

Institutional Review Board

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