
Determining Pre-Post-Cochlear Implant Outcomes for Young Children with Deaf-Blindness Through LENA Technology

Kathleen Stremel Thomas
The Teaching Research Institute
(stremelk@wou.edu)

Project Partners

- The Teaching Research Institute (Western Oregon University)
 - Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
 - East Carolina University
 - In collaboration – University of Kansas – LSI
Parsons
-

A Federal Project: Influencing Outcomes for Children Who Are Deaf-Blind With Cochlear Implants

Steppingstones of Technology Innovation
Office of Special Education Programs
(#H327A080045: 2008-2011)

Participants for Two Studies

- Children who are 6 months-7 years of age with significant vision loss/severe-profound sensorineural hearing loss (deaf-blind)
 - Children eligible for cochlear implants and approved for implantation
 - Children in the “pre-implant” phase of the process
-

Current Participants

November 2010-April 2010

- LENA (at least 3 DLPs) data on 8 children
 - DLP have been sent to 3 additional children
 - 2 new children
-

Data Collection Pre and Post Implant

- A battery of assessments are given pre-implant and post-implant (CSBS, MacArthur-Bates, Rynell-Zinkin, ITMAIS-MAIS, Speech Intelligibility) to determine developmental skills/needs
 - Children and caregivers are video-taped in motivating routines and activities
 - Language ENvironmental Analysis (LENA) data are used to examine the frequency & type of caregiver/teacher “talk” across a day (8-12 hours).
-

Question #1:

What are the differences in the caregiver's communicative interactions before and after implantation?

LENA: Three recordings are made for each phase of the research

- Phase 1: Data collected after eligibility and approval and prior to implantation.
 - Phase 2: Data collected within 1 month after mapping.
 - Phase 3: Data are shared with the family with discussions of ways in which to increase “meaningful speech” during interactions in specific routines; Facts and Features for Families are provided.
 - Phase 3: Data collected within 6 months “time in sound” for those families who don’t participate in the intervention research.
-

Question 2:

What are the effects of individualized auditory intervention with delayed support prompts on child auditory, communication and language outcomes?

Within-Case Multiple Baseline Design Across Behaviors within Routines

- Phase 1: Data collected after “eligibility” and approval and prior to implantation
 - Phase 2: Data collected within 1 month after mapping
 - Phase 3: 15-18 sessions of systematically teaching the parents to implement specific techniques, as using the “auditory-lead/support/” in partial participation, directives, responsiveness, an opportunities for communication.
-

LENA Data

- Lena data are used to determine maintenance and generalization after the first two behaviors are implemented to criterion when interventionists are not present.
-

Case Example:

- First slide is 4 months pre-implant
 - Second slide is 2 months pre-implant
 - Child mapped on April 22nd: DLPs sent
-

Composite View

than ▾



Composite View



Additional Ways in Which We Have Used LENA in the Project

- To examine “meaningful speech” and noise in a preschool environment to advocate for an FM system for a child
 - To look at the effects of bilateral implants
 - To assist parents to determine if vocalizations are decreasing across time
-



Client Manager



LENA Reports



Developmental Snapshot



Digital Language Processor

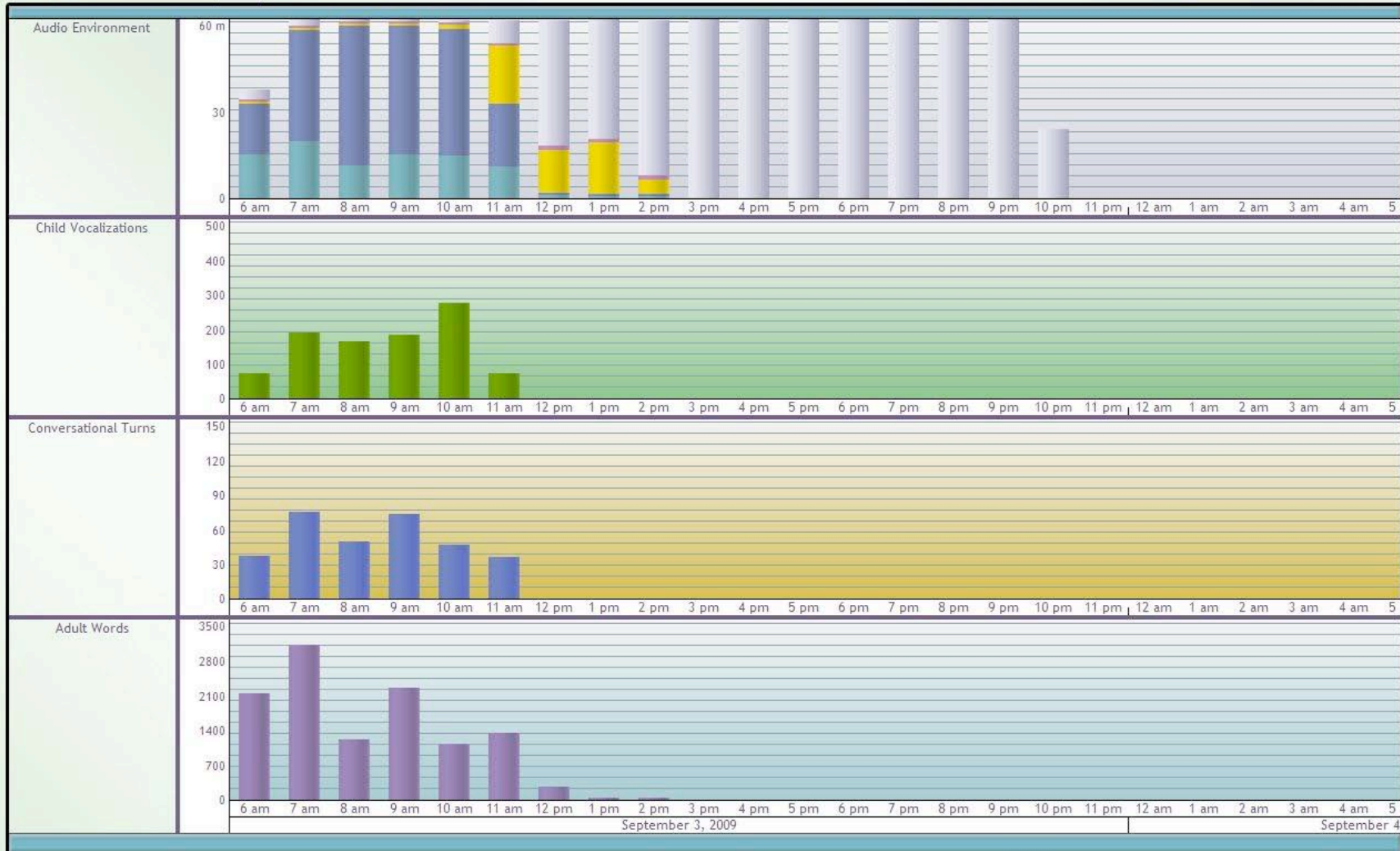


Settings

Composite View

(C005) [Redacted]

HOURLY
September 3, 2009



Adult Words

Conversational Turns

Child Vocalizations

Audio Environment

Composite View

Report List

Composite View

(C017) [REDACTED]

HOURLY
December 12, 2009

