DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF THE SYSTEMATIC ASSESSMENT OF BOOK READING (SABR)

Help us develop a standardized measure of the quality of book reading and we will help you enrich your classroom book reading interactions!

Shared reading is a common practice in preschool and kindergarten classrooms because it supports important language and literacy skills. Our work shows what teachers talk about during interactive reading predict children’s language and literacy skills even a year later! Participating teachers will be observed during two shared book reading sessions in their classrooms. Additionally, teachers complete questionnaires about themselves, their students, and their teaching practices. We also examine students’ language and literacy skills twice throughout the year.

What are we developing?

We are creating the first standardized, objective assessment of book reading and a professional development toolkit to improve reading quality by observing and videotaping book reading sessions in pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classrooms starting August 2017. Working in a large number of classrooms helps ensure we create an objective measure.

Future Plans

Shared reading is a common practice in preschool and kindergarten classrooms because it supports important language and literacy skills. Our work shows what teachers talk about during interactive reading predict children’s language and literacy skills even a year later! Your participation helps contribute to a scientific knowledge base for shared book reading experiences that will directly inform “best practices” in future years.

What will teachers and children receive?

- Participating teachers will receive a thank you gift pack of books and the opportunity to participate in online professional development regarding best practices for classroom shared book reading sessions.
- Participating children will also receive a thank you gift book to take home.

How can I get involved?

- Letter/email of support: contact Dori Jenks for details.
- Book reading observations: Pre-K and kindergarten teachers will be videotaped reading aloud texts with their students at two conveniently scheduled days that are about four months apart.
- Child testing: About 3-4 students per classroom will be randomly picked to participate in language and literacy assessments. Parent consent will be obtained before children are tested individually by trained research staff.

PARTNERS

- Crane Center for Early Childhood Research & Policy (CCEC)
- The Ohio State University
- American Institutes for Research
- Children’s Learning Institute (CLI) at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston (UT Health)
- Michigan State University

COLLABORATORS

Teachers and students in school districts throughout central Ohio and Austin, Texas

Help contribute to a scientific knowledge base for shared book reading experiences that will directly inform “best practices” in future years.

Please do not hesitate to call or write with any questions. We hope you will participate in this important project!

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