

!!!Participants Needed for Research Study!!!

Improving Language Comprehension via Gestures in Rural Montana Children with Language Impairment and/or Autism

Rural Autism Individuals – Supporting Expression (RAISE)



Pennington Educational Research Laboratory

WHAT ARE WE STUDYING? And WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

→ We study how gestures can support comprehension of language in hearing children ages 4-18 with:

- ◆ **Receptive Language Disorder**, or
- ◆ **Autism Spectrum Disorders**, or
- ◆ **Normal Development** (siblings, cousins, friends, & classmates)

→ We hope to understand how families can effectively use gestures to support oral (verbal) communication with their children.

→ We are especially reaching out to participants in **rural communities**.



Example of a gesture/sign for “different”

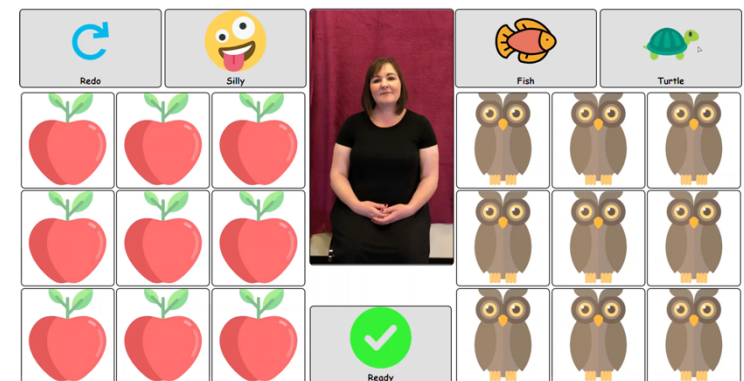
WHAT WILL PARTICIPANTS DO DURING THE RAISE STUDY?

→ We can come to your home for doing the following assessments. (Or you may come to our lab at MSU).

→ We will administer to participants: 3 standardized tests of language and 3 tests of cognition, & 5 experimental tasks on computer.

→ These assessments may take 2-3 hours in total to complete for a normal child. We may visit you for a shorter time, 2-3 times.

→ We will also ask the primary caregiver to fill out 4 questionnaires about the participant’s language and social development, and family status. This may take ~30-60 minutes.



Example of a picture for participant

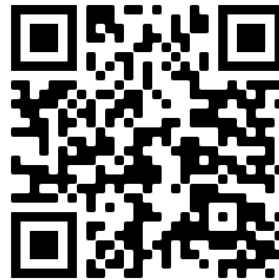
WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO YOU?

- There are no direct benefits to you or the participant from this research.
- This study is being done for research purposes only: We cannot diagnose any impairment.
- *However, we will provide:*
 - ◆ report of participant's results and what they mean, for caregivers. This report can be shared with participant's Speech and Language Pathologist and/or other Clinicians/Therapists;
 - ◆ report about findings from established research about how using gestures can help with everyday communication;
 - ◆ one \$90 gift card to Amazon.com per participant.

Our Team at Montana State University (and our expertise):

- ◆ Dr. Sarah Pennington (dyslexia, education, and eye tracking)
- ◆ Dr. Nadya Modyanova (autism and language impairment in children)
- ◆ Dr. Kalli Decker (rural services and gestures)
- ◆ Addy Bolton (Undergraduate Researcher)

WHOM SHOULD I CONTACT IF I'M INTERESTED in the RAISE Study?



www.montana.edu/perl/projects.html

Nadya at (406) 848-1535
(text/voicemail)

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Addy at (307) 763-8779
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Our trained researchers can visit you at your home for the study!
(or you can visit us at MSU).

Note about COVID-19/Flu/RSV/etc.:

- Our researchers wear transparent masks for all in-person interactions.
- Prior to in-person visits, researchers, participants, and caregivers will be asked about any known exposure to any virus or any symptoms of illness.
- Appointments may be rescheduled in case of recent/current exposure or illness.

**Montana State University IRB
Protocol #: 2022-73-NM092419-FCR**