

Building Communication Foundations

Pregnancy → Birth → Year 3

Prenatal Sensations

- Sounds
 - Heartbeat (loud); muffled voices, music—[womb sounds](#)
 - Acoustic neural pathways earliest to myelinate (forming neural pathways) and this continues through childhood into adolescence
 - Pre-disposed towards human voices
- Critical myelination peak periods
 - 3 months, 1 year, 5 years, and 15 years
 - Gains in cognitive speed (due to myelination) at the expense of cognitive flexibility



Post-Natal

- Overwhelmed with sensate world
- Withdrawal as a strategy to manage overload
- Prefer higher pitches (ACL) and “music” like patterns
- Vision not able to “fix” gaze until 6 weeks and adult-like at @3-months
- Movement and high contrast images noticed most
- Prefer sweet to salty, recognize mom’s scent, can signal pleasure, avoidance, disgust
- A nonverbal world

Year 1

- Baby is actively processing information
- Parents are active participants with child
- Scaffolding—building foundations for future interaction
- Cooing sounds— vowels (ahh, ooh), nasal (mmm)
- Later consonants added (d, p, b)

Year 1

Socha & Yingling—Table (copy)
Framed as “Play”

Highlights—

- 6-12 months deixis
- Babbling
- First words 9-12 months
 - High frequency words
 - Referentials
 - Expressives
 - Idiomorphs
- Syntactic
 - MLU
- Pragmatic
 - Increasing speech acts
 - Conversation

Communication Pragmatics

- How do we know if the words we are using are getting across to children?
- What kinds of words should we choose for particular levels of linguistic development
- Adapting read-ability indexes to speech

COMM 427 Website links:

[Fog Calculation Site](#)



Gunning's

FOG INDEX
