Research Project | Eyes and Brain: Early markers of Language Development

Do Ólhar ao Cérebro: marcadores precoces no desenvolvimento da linguagem

Eyes and Brain, Early markers of Language Development

GOALS

Research on early markers of language development

Infant’s task in learning a language >> a stronger commitment to the task as development proceeds

Markers of native language specificity

GOALS: PROSPECTIVE STUDY IN 4 DOMAINS

Stress discrimination

Word stress: a strong cue for later language processing as the words are in continuous speech, in some languages (e.g., English, German) >> speech segmentation tasks

Phonetic discrimination

Native sounds > words > phrases >…

Pitch discrimination

Grasping the form early sensitivity to pitch, this suggests processing results as an advisory markers

Word learning

The words the infant hears first in late language development (phrases, phonetically simple)

PREDICTIONS & OUTCOMES

1. Overall poor language abilities in ARG when compared to TD.
2. Motor movement and neural responses as the potential early markers/prediction. The CDI scores and the Griffiths scale on the language development measures to be practiced
3. Good discrimination of independent contrasts will correlate negatively with later language abilities.
4. Good discrimination of native contrast will show a positive correlation.
5. Cases with formal diagnoses on independent grounds would provide a robust estimate of critical periods.
6. Proposal of a set of early markers of risk as decisive step in the promotion of intervention and intervention with strong individual, familial and social benefits.

Selected references