

Finding 1: Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing, and typically hearing children acquire vocabulary *at equivalent rates* (parallel slopes).

Finding 2: However, language access that begins AFTER BIRTH creates barriers to developing age-appropriate receptive vocabulary (PPVT raw scores).

UPSHOT: Aspects of development that depend on a language foundation might not wait for children to catch up (e.g., Number Cognition, Executive Function, Theory of Mind)

“Point to the picture that matches the word”



PARTICIPANTS	Mean Age (range)	Average age at which language exposure began (range)
Early English (n=41) <i>Typically hearing</i>	4;9 (2;11 - 6;7)	Birth
Later English (n=28) <i>Deaf &amp; Hard of Hearing with hearing aids, CIs, or BAHA</i>	5;0 (3;5 - 6;8)	Approx. 15 months (0-60 months) 25/28 (89%) exposed by ~24 months

