

Early Talk Boost

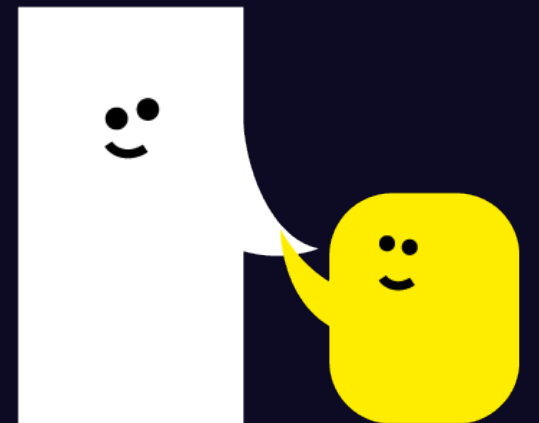
Overview

speechandlanguage.org.uk

Follow us @SpeechAndLangUK



**Speech and
Language UK** 
Changing young lives.



Our vision, mission and charitable cause

Our vision

Every child who is facing challenges with talking and understanding words can look to the future with confidence.

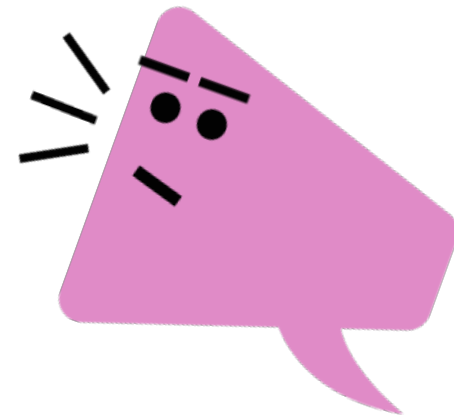
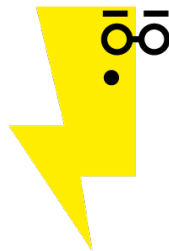
Our mission

We give children and young people the skills they need so they aren't left behind, waiting to be understood.

We do this by creating tools for schools and nurseries, giving advice and guidance to families and putting pressure on politicians.

Our charitable cause

For 1.7 million children in the UK, learning to talk and understand words feels like an impossible hurdle. Without the right help this can destroy their world.



7 areas of learning and development

3 prime areas:

- communication and language;
- physical development; and
- personal, social and emotional development

4 specific areas (through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied):

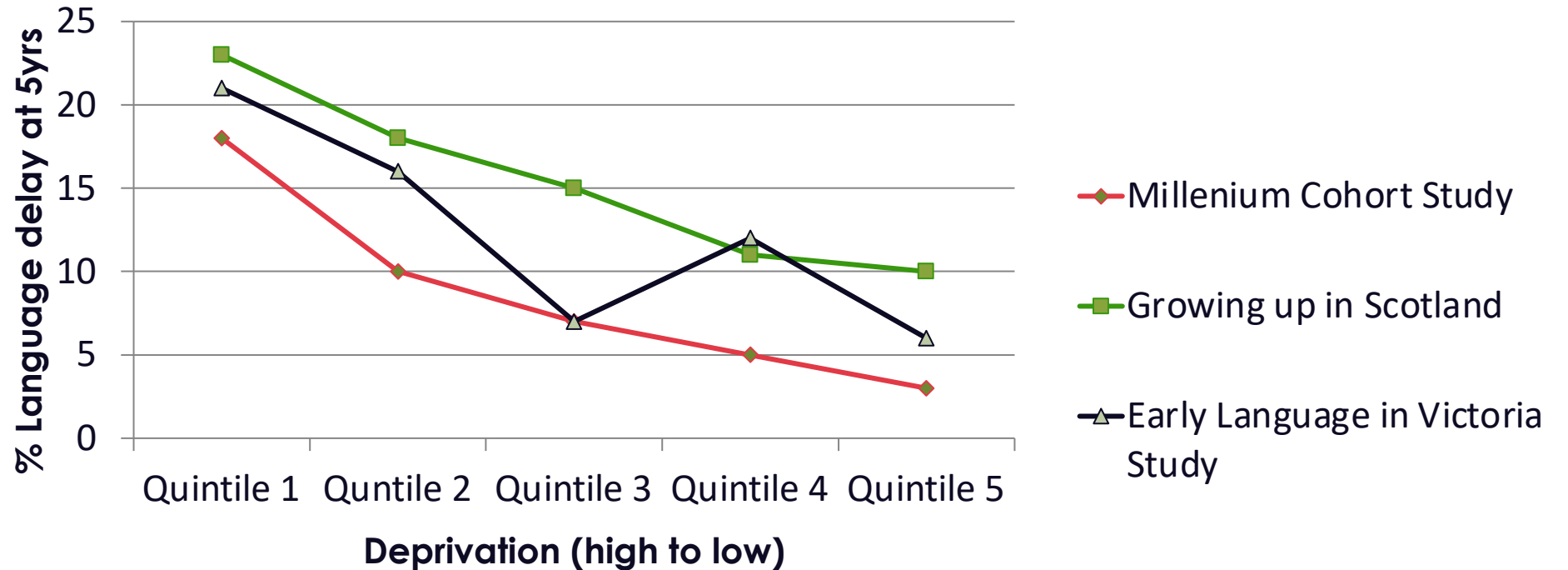
- literacy;
- mathematics;
- understanding the world; and
- expressive arts and design.



Early Learning Goals

- **Communication and language**
- **Listening and attention:** children listen attentively in a range of situations. They listen to stories, accurately anticipating key events and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions or actions. They give their attention to what others say and respond appropriately, while engaged in another activity.
- **Understanding:** children follow instructions involving several ideas or actions. They answer 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences and in response to stories or events.
- **Speaking:** children express themselves effectively, showing awareness of listeners' needs. They use past, present and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future. They develop their own narratives and explanations by connecting ideas or events.

Link between social deprivation and language delay



What is Early Talk Boost?

A language intervention designed for 3-4-year olds to boost their language skills.

Includes:

Intervention
Manual

Set of eight
story books

Toolkit of
resources

Tracker

Parents are also involved in the programme

Early Talk Boost supports

Attention and listening

These are the foundation skills for speaking and listening.

Developing vocabulary

Research shows that children with weaker vocabularies are at risk of experiencing difficulties with reading.

Building sentences

Putting words together is a vital skill for having conversations and telling stories.



Jake & Tizzy story books

A series of eight story books introduce the characters of Jake and Tizzy, who are used throughout the intervention, so that children will become familiar with them. The books:

- reinforce topics covered in the weekly sessions such as learning to listen, big and little, and action words
- introduce and practise a range of vocabulary
- focus on language structures required for building sentences.

Repeated reading of story books has an effect on children's narrative skills and print knowledge (Horst et al, 2011).



Structure of each session: Plan, do and review

Planning/Introduction - using visual planning board

Talking about what you've done - using visual planning board

Activity 1

Activity 2

Song

**Story featuring Jake
and Tizzy**

Overview of focus and content of intervention

	Weeks	Topics
Attention and listening	1 and 2	Learning to Listen
Developing vocabulary	3 and 4	Food Big and Little
Building sentences	5 to 8	Action words On, under and in Three-key-word sentences First, next and last
Having conversations	9	Making friends

**Speech and
Language UK**



Changing young lives.

Early Talk Boost Tracker

The Tracker has four sections:

- Attention and listening
- Communication: Understanding of language
- Communication: Speaking
- Personal, social and emotional skills



Partnership with parents

- All parents will have a copy of the eight weekly Jake & Tizzy story books to share at home.
- Parents will be invited to attend a workshop on how sharing books can help language development.
- These practical strategies will show parents what they can do to encourage their child's talking



3 Pilot Areas – January 2015

Sunderland	8 Nursery Settings
St Helens	8 Nursery Settings
London Area	7 Nursery Settings

Outcomes

EYPs

- Knowing about / supporting SLC
- Identifying SLCN
- Having strategies to use

Children

- improved language and communication skills

Parents

- know how to support child's SLC
- Identify an improvement in child's SLC

Evaluation Process

Assessment	Who administers	When
PLS- 4	Evaluation Assistant	T1; T2; T3
Parent Rating Scale	Evaluation Assistant with parent	T1; T2; T3
Ferre Laevers checklist	Early Years practitioner	T1; T2
ETB Selection Tool	Early Years practitioner	T1; T2; T3
Child rating scale	Early Years practitioner	
Staff Outcome Measures – (Questionnaire pre training and post intervention delivery)	Paper version - CA	T1; T2 Waiting and active settings
Quality audit parent training	Paper version – CA	Following parent training
Quality audit of staff training	Paper version - CA	Following staff training

Initial Findings

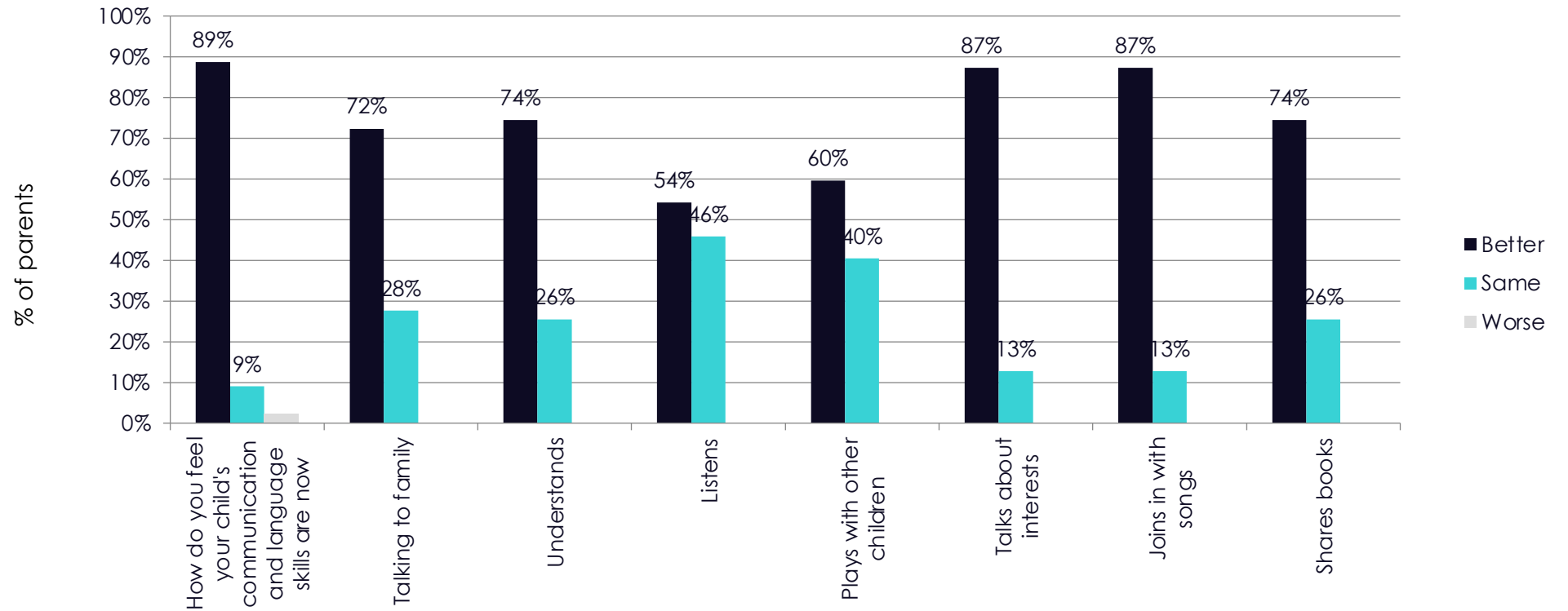
After Early Talk Boost, children make statistically significant progress in their early language. On average they make 6 months progress after a nine week intervention helping them to catch up with other children their age. This is twice the amount of progress of children not having the intervention.



**Speech and
Language UK** 
Changing young lives.

Parent's rating of their child's communication skills

Parent Feedback: % of parents who rated their child's skills as better, the same or worse after *Early Talk Boost*



Children's Voice

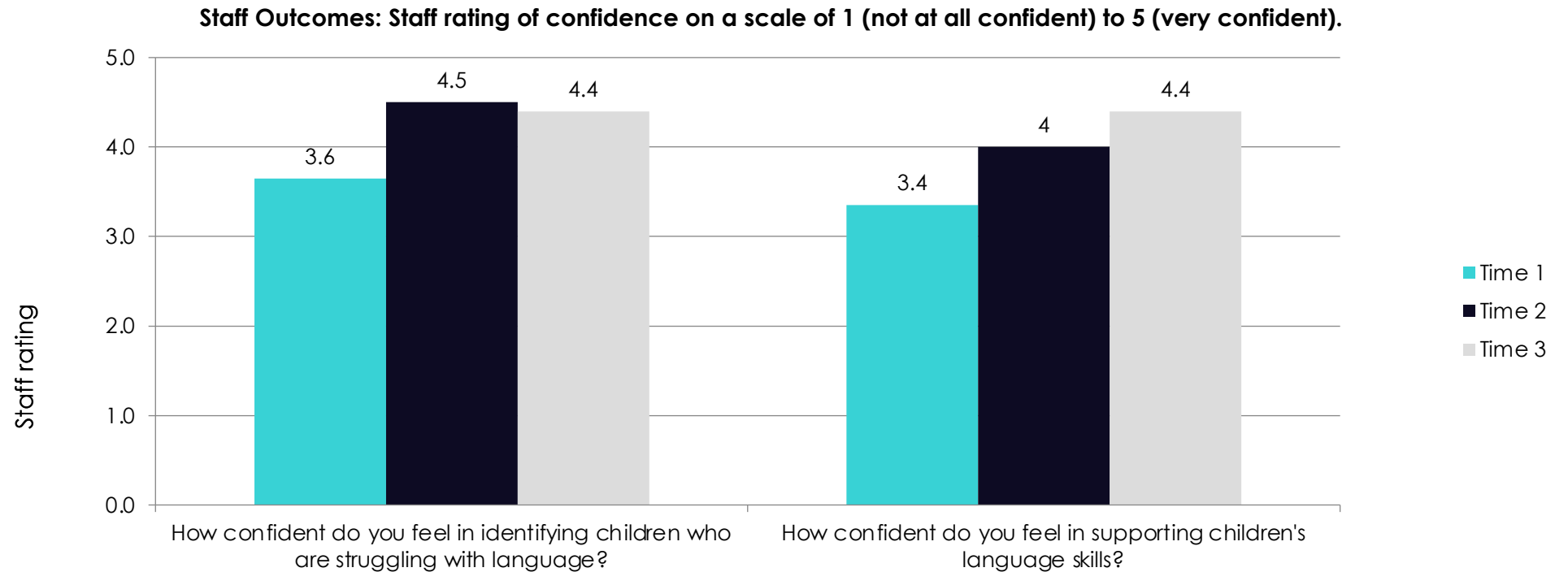
Key summaries from child voice data

After the intervention:

- 28% more children said they were happy when they went to nursery.
- 42% more children said that they were good at talking with their friends.
- 27% more children said that they could listen when their teacher/keyworker was speaking.
- 80% children said that they were happy telling stories (60% before).
- Numbers of children who felt sad about their communication skills in a number of areas decreased.
- 40% more children were able to complete the child voice questionnaire after the intervention.
- Samples of children's speech showed an increase in MLU (the number of words they used) and complexity of sentence structure.



Staff Outcome Measures



The active settings completed their follow up outcome forms at Time 2 (after ETB) the control settings completed them at Time 3 (once they had had ETB).

How much does it cost?

- Intervention Pack £500 includes Intervention Manual, Tool bag, 10 x 8 Jake and Tizzy Books, Participant Book and on-line Tracker
- EYPP funding for just 2 eligible children attending nursery part time
- Potential to reach 24 children in a school year (if run 3 times)

For more information....

Visit the website to find out more - <https://speechandlanguage.org.uk/training-licensing/programmes-for-nurseries-and-schools/>

To purchase Early Talk Boost through our shop -
<https://speechandlanguage.org.uk/shop-for-educators/>

To register on the tracker - <https://speechandlanguage.org.uk/training-licensing/programmes-tracker/>

To contact Speech and Language UK

- info@speechandlanguage.org.uk
- 020 7843 2515

Thank you

[Speechandlanguage.org.uk](https://speechandlanguage.org.uk)

Follow us @SpeechAndLangUK



**Speech and
Language UK** 
Changing young lives.

