

Peer Networking Intervention for Increasing Vocal Emissions in a Center-Based Program



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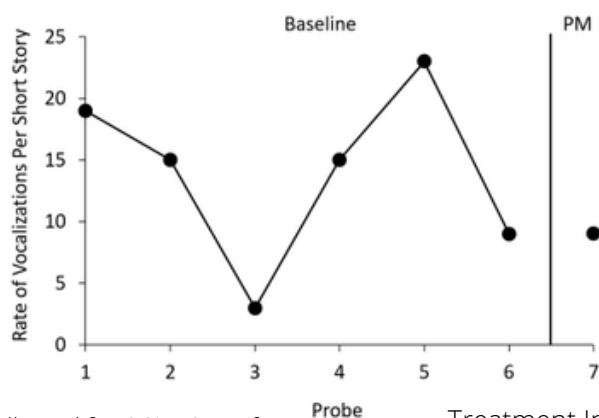
Introduction

- Deficits in language & communication prevalent with ASD diagnosis
 - Estimates of 25-35% minimally verbal (Rose et al., 2016)
- Peer-Mediated Interventions
 - Improve social & communication skills in children with developmental delays (Oh-Young et al., 2018)
 - Facilitate positive social interaction & reduces prompt dependency in group social settings (Kamps et al., 2014).

Project:

- **Purpose:** Evaluate the effects of a peer-mediated intervention for increasing vocal emission rates for young children with language delays
- **Participant:**
 - 4-year-old boy diagnosed with ASD & language delay receiving services in a center-based program
- **Setting:**
 - Private room located in center

Preliminary Data:



-OA collected for 86% (6/7) of sessions:

- Average 89.2%; range 82.4%-100%

-Treatment Integrity collected for all sessions:

- Average 100%; range 100%-100%

Methods:

-Dependent Variable: Vocal Emissions

- Any audible sounds made during the designated story time
- Ex.) grunts, humming, syllables, words, etc.

Procedures:

-Peer-Mediator Training

- Client with strong language skills
- Initial echoic assessment to determine ability to echo words presented during intervention stories
- Provided instruction, models, practice opportunities, & feedback on session procedures
- Discontinued after 100% of steps followed with 2 consecutive books

-Baseline

- One of 10 short stories read (e.g., From Head to Toe, Pete the Cat)
- Presented with an opportunity to say 10 pre-selected words in story ("Can you say ___?")

-Peer-Mediator (PM) Intervention

- Same procedures as baseline
- Peer-mediator present
- Trained to say each word when requested throughout story

Preliminary Outcomes:

- Limited intervention data collected due to attendance at center
- Variability during baseline and no level change initially
- Further data needed & replication with other participants
- Assess generalization outside of sessions
- Analyze function & topography of emissions