

**ARTICLE REFERENCE:** Fung, P., Chow, B. W., & McBride-Chang, C. (2005). The impact of a dialogic reading program on deaf and hard-of-hearing kindergarten and early primary school-aged students in Hong Kong. *Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education, 10*(1), 82-95. doi:10.1093/deafed/eni005

**KEYWORDS:** Language, Vocabulary, Storybook Reading

**WHAT WAS STUDIED, HOW WAS IT STUDIED AND RESULTS:** Dialogic reading is a method used to read storybooks to young children to improve vocabulary. Dialogic reading involves reading the same book at least three times, encouraging children to participate by asking questions about the book, and expanding on children's answers. Randomized control trials show dialogic reading improves hearing children's language development more than typical storybook reading. This study examined the effect of an adapted form of dialogic reading on deaf and hard-of-hearing (DHH) children's vocabulary development. The researchers randomly assigned parents and their DHH child to one of three conditions: dialogic reading, typical storybook reading, or no intervention. The study found that children whose parents used dialogic reading experienced greater vocabulary growth than children in the other two conditions after only 8 weeks.

**HOW THIS INFORMATION MAY BE USEFUL TO YOU AND YOUR CHILD:** Dialogic reading is a great way to read storybooks to your child even as young as 2 years of age. There are resources on the web to help you learn this technique.

**WHO WAS STUDIED:** 28 DHH children, 5 to 9 years old, with a moderate to severe hearing loss

**WHAT STILL REMAINS TO BE ANSWERED:** Does dialogic reading improve vocabulary in all DHH children

**WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION:** The Atlanta Speech School has developed two webpages that can help you learn how to read to your child using these techniques. They even include downloadable books with hints on how to read them to your child. These resources were created for parents and teachers of hearing children but they can also be used with DHH children.

<https://www.atlantaspeechschool.org/READ>

<https://www.atlantaspeechschool.org/read-strategy-for-teachers>