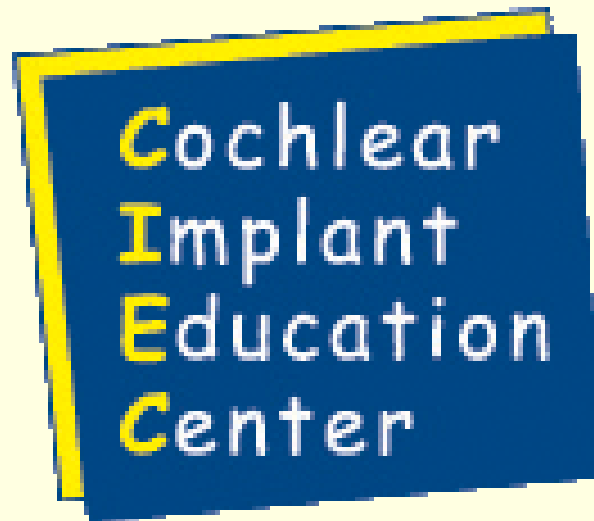


Effective Educational Practices for Young Children with Cochlear Implants:



What We are Learning

**EHDI Conference
March, 2010**

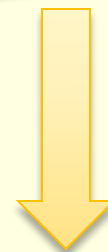
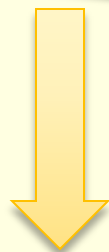


[http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu/Clerc_Center/Information_and_Resources/Cochlear Implant Education Center.html](http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu/Clerc_Center/Information_and_Resources/Cochlear_Implant_Education_Center.html)

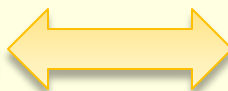
What we have been doing.....

Looking at how spoken language and sign language can support each other for children with cochlear implants

Cochlear Implant Education Center



National
Initiatives



Demonstration
Schools

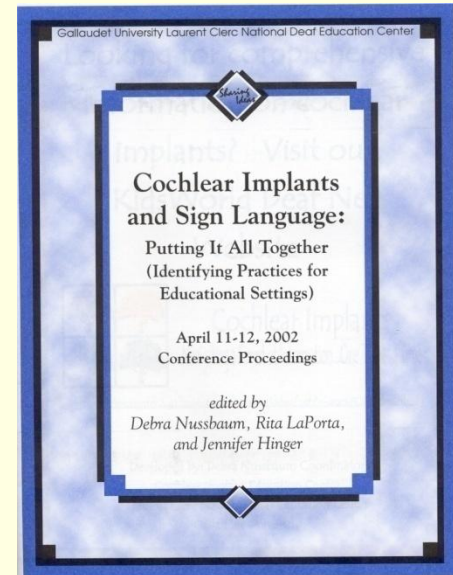
Reflections From 2002 Conference



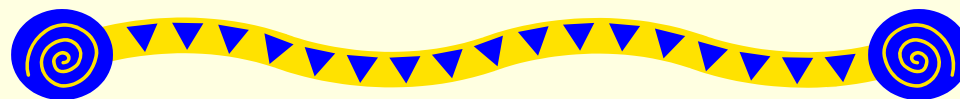
Cochlear Implants and Sign Language: Putting It all Together 2002

THE BIG QUESTION.....

Is it a conflict to sign
with children who have
cochlear implants ?



Cochlear Implants and Sign Language: Building Foundations For Effective Educational Practices



April 15-17, 2009

It is important to look beyond one “single approach” in achieving optimal outcomes in linguistic, cognitive, academic, and social competence for deaf and hard of hearing children including those with cochlear implants.

Ed Bosso, Vice President, Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center, Opening Remarks, Building Foundations for Effective Educational Practices: Children with Cochlear Implants, April 2009

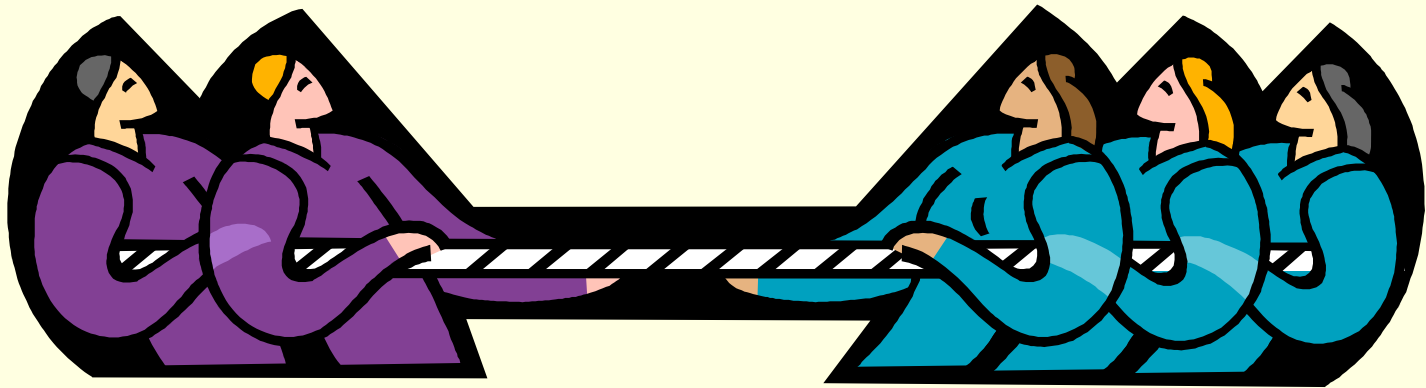
With growth in the number of children with cochlear implants has emerged a population of children who are similar in the technology they are using, yet disparate in their demographic characteristics and spoken language communication outcomes.

Belzner, K.A. Seal, B.C. *Children with Cochlear Implants: A Review of Demographics and Communication Outcomes*, American Annals of the Deaf, volume 4. Pages 311-330)

What we are learning

Spoken Language and Sign

It does not have to be a competition!



What the research indicates...

Early language foundations (signed or spoken) can positively impact “spoken language” outcomes

Tait, M., Lutman, M. and Robinson, K. (2000)
Yoshinaga-Itano and Sedley, 2000,
Yoshinaga-Itano, 2003

What the research indicates...

Brain imaging suggests that the brain can readily handle dual language development (bimodal-bilingual)

*Petitto, L. A., Katerlos, M., Levy, B., Gauna, K., Tétrault, K. & Ferraro, V, 2001
Kovelman, I., Shalinsky, M., White, K., Schmitt, S., Berens, Petitto, L.A. (in press)*

What the research indicates...

Sign language can have a positive impact on the early language development of hearing babies.

So why not deaf babies ???

<http://www.sign2me.com/research.php>

What the research indicates....

A review of research related to sign use does **not** demonstrate that signing in and of itself impedes the development of spoken language.

Spencer, Patricia (April, 2009), Research to Practice, Cochlear Implants and Sign Language: Building Foundations for Effective Educational Practices; April, 2009

Importance of defining “sign”

American Sign Language
or
English based sign system

Varied roles of “sign”

- ▶ Early language development until implantation/activation
- ▶ Until a child transitions to spoken language
- ▶ Continued use as a support to spoken English
- ▶ Equal development of both ASL and spoken English
- ▶ Primary use of ASL-- spoken English as a supplement

Based on Moeller, M. P. (2006). Use of sign with children who have cochlear implants: A diverse set of approaches. Loud & Clear, 2, 1 & 6-12. Advanced Bionics Corporation.

Benefit of early sign....

Age 22 months, 9 months post activation



Using sign as a link to spoken language



Yes, that's the dog.... woof woof... woof woof

Age 3



With purposeful planning, sign and spoken language can support each other in the learning process for children with cochlear implants.

Spoken English Planning Considerations

- ▶ Age and developmental level of the student
- ▶ Auditory access
- ▶ Auditory inclination
- ▶ Language and communication competence
- ▶ Language Preference/Comfort Level
- ▶ Intelligence and additional special needs
- ▶ Family attitude and motivation
- ▶ Student attitude, personality, and motivation

For more information:

Cochlear Implant Education Center

<http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu/>

(keyword: Cochlear Implant Education Center)

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