

Fabulous Fall Town Hall

Down the road the gingerbread man. He ran past the
doghouse. The dog wagged his tail. "Slow down, Gingerbread
man. I want to talk to you," the dog barked. And he started
laughing at the gingerbread man.

But the gingerbread man ran faster.

"I'll run and run as fast as I can,
I won't reach you, I'm the gingerbread man!"
he told the woman. I ran from the man.
"It ran from you. See if I can!"

November 20, 2020



Welcome!

Using the Chat box, tell us your name and where you are from!

The Chat Box is at the bottom of the Zoom tool bar :)

Hi everyone! Tymisha
from RAR National in
PA.

Agenda for Today's Town Hall

- ✓ Updates
- ✓ **SRI Education, Todd Grindal & Allison Milby**
- ✓ Q&A
- ✓ Announcements



Raising A Reader Updates

Fall 2020 Outreach

We want to hear from you!



- Be on the lookout for an email invitation from your Portfolio Manager to schedule a time to connect.

As a token of our appreciation for you taking the time to speak with us, we will be offering a \$100 credit off a future purchase.

Fabulous Fall Classroom Pack!

A Fun Way to Support Early Literacy through Reading Routines and Home-School Connections!

The First 100
Implementer
Toolkits ordered
will get a RAR
Swag Bag!

Individual Family Pack

- Infant and Toddler Kits

**\$32 per
Family
Pack!**

Individual Family Pack

- Ages 3-PreK
- School Age

**\$55 per
Family
Pack!**

Classroom Pack

- Implementer Toolkit
- Family Pack (up to 25)
 - Ages 3-PreK
 - School Age

**25%
Off**

**\$200-
\$1250 per
Classroom!**

SRI International

Todd Grindal, SRI Education (Principal Investigator)
Allison Milby, SRI Education (Project Director)



SMARTalk




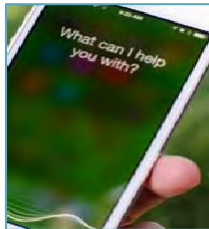
Speech Metrics for Advancing Rich Talk
Led by SRI International

Todd Grindal, SRI Education (Principal Investigator)
Allison Milby, SRI Education (Project Director)

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About SRI International

- Independent, non-profit research institute founded in 1946 by Stanford University.
- History of innovation and expertise in Education, Computing, Robotics, and Health

SRI innovations			
Computer mouse	The Internet	Robotic surgery	SIRI
			

Expertise in early childhood education

- Social emotional development
- Literacy development
- Family supports and caregiver mental health
- Digital learning
- Mathematics instruction

Partners on current early childhood education projects



Why This Matters

- **How adults speak to young children is key** for children's brain development and social, language, reading, and math skills.* For [example, reading to children positively impacts children's behavior and attention, important indicators of later academic achievement.](#)
- **Toxic stress**, like parents are encountering related to health, employment and childcare, **can negatively impact children's development.** Communities of color are [disproportionately impacted](#). Reading together strengthens bonds between caregivers and children, [making families more resilient](#) and counteracting stress.
- **Serve-and-return** conversations and responsive verbal interactions, such as those **fostered by shared reading, support language and brain development.**
- Parents are being asked to provide childcare more than ever, and [research shows that data-informed coaching can improve spoken interactions between parents and children.](#)



SMARTalk can provide caregivers with feedback that supports growth-promoting interactions with young children.

*Gilkerson et al., 2017; Wang & Kenny, 2013; Laureau, 2011; Leonard et al., 2018; Hart & Risley, 1995

SMARTalk Objective

- **The Challenge:** Currently, analyzing spoken interactions requires significant human input/assessment, which is time-consuming and expensive. Many programs cannot provide teachers and caregivers with the frequent, timely feedback they need to improve spoken interactions with children.

SMARTalk's Objective:

- Develop a tool that **automatically** analyzes adult speech to children and provides actionable information for parents, researchers and practitioners to:
 - Support high-quality spoken interactions for children
 - Research early development questions at scale
- Increase access to assessment by reducing burden and cost

What does SMARTalk measure?

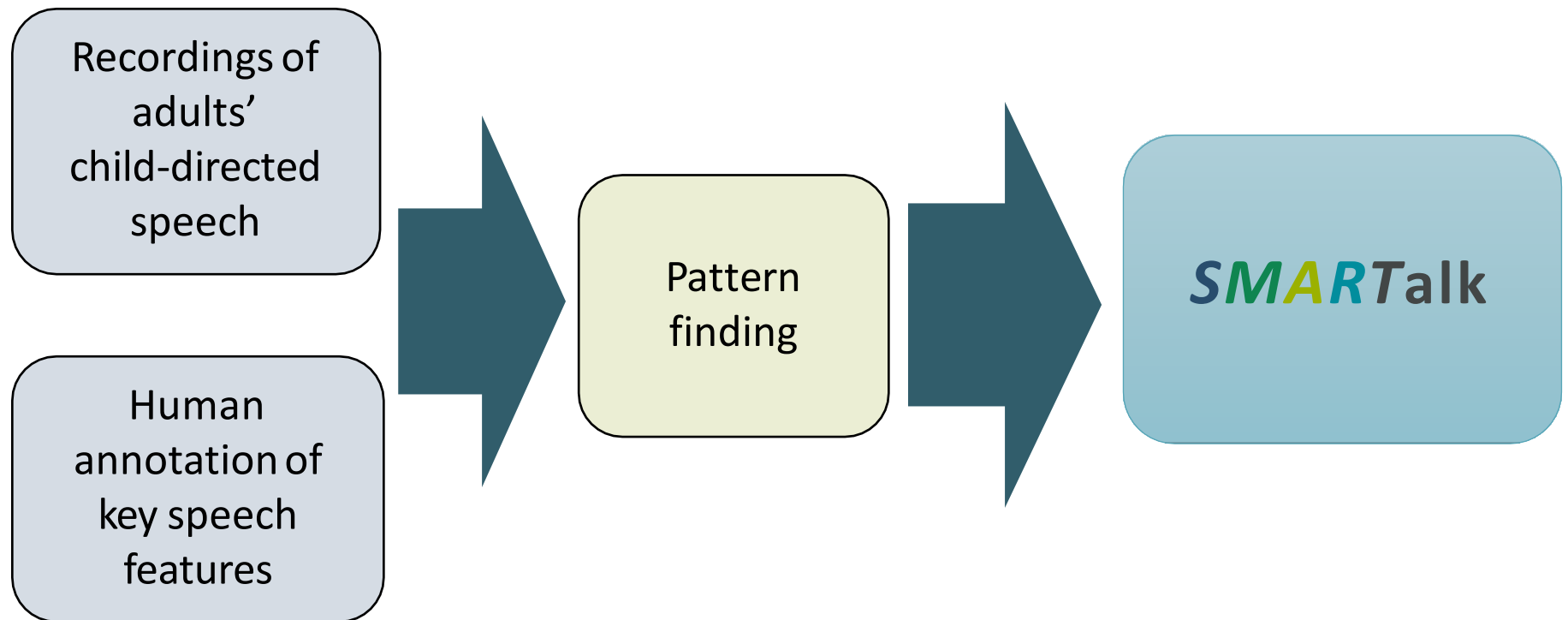
Uses SRI technology to detect English language speech features associated with developmental skills

Child skill(s) supported	Adult speech features
Problem-solving, enhanced critical thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complexity of questions (e.g. labeling vs. problem solving)• Open-ended questions (e.g. “Why do you think, tell me about...”)
Early literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of advanced vocabulary• Phonemic practice (sounding out words)
Persistence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Praise (person vs. process)
Emotional regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adult frustration/anger

SMARTalk will improve teacher/caregiver language through low-cost **frequent measurement, regular analysis, and automated personalized support**



We are developing SMARTalk by analyzing recordings of adults' child-directed English language speech



What we would ask from **Raising A Reader** affiliate sites

- Share our [recruitment flyer](#) with eligible caregivers (i.e., English-speaking caregivers of 3 to 5 year-olds)
 - Recruitment goals - 2021-2022:
 - Five-Ten caregivers
 - Record 3 hours of interactions per day for 3-5 days.
 - Participate in one 30-45 min debrief interview
- Encourage caregivers to reach out to SRI if they have questions.

What we will ask of caregivers

- **If caregivers are interested in participating**, they will have the opportunity to ask questions, and will be asked to **sign an informed consent form**.
- **Complete a 15 min orientation** on how to use the recording equipment
- **Wear a head-mounted microphone daily** for 3-5 days, recording approx. 2-3 hours per day.
 - **IMPORTANT:** the project is not aimed at evaluating caregivers, the quality of their interactions with children, or ability to engage in age-appropriate conversations.
 - **Caregivers** may pause recording at any time (e.g. private conversations, eating lunch, using the restroom, etc.)
- **Participate in a debrief interview.** The project team will ask caregivers questions about the recording device and how they would use the resulting data.



What we will provide to **caregivers** who participate

- A **\$50 gift card** as a token of our appreciation for recording their speech.
- Another **\$25 gift card** for participating in the debrief interview.
- Access to summary statistics derived from speech interactions (e.g., the number of times per hour that caregivers ask open-ended or close ended questions)



How will the data be handled?

- Data will be **confidential**: it will not be linked to caregiver name or identifiers.
- SRI will provide all the materials needed for audio recording.
- SRI has developed procedures for secure collection and storage of audio data.

Please share any questions and feedback!

Contact Todd.Grindal@SRI.com



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Help us learn about adult speech that may support children's development!

SRI Education is looking for caregivers to help us learn about the types of speech adults use with children in early childhood classroom and home settings. The goal of this study is to develop tools that can be used to analyze adult speech in childcare and classroom settings.

What does this project involve?

SRI research staff are looking for 10-15 English-speaking caregivers who are willing to be audio recorded during natural conversations and interactions with young children. We ask that caregivers agree to be recorded for about three hours on five occasions. The project is **not** aimed at evaluating you, your voice, the quality of your interactions with children, or your ability to engage in conversation with young children. Caregivers who agree to participate will be equipped with a head-mounted microphone by SRI staff, and will go about their day as they normally would.

At the end of data collection, caregivers will be asked to participate in a 30-45 minute debrief interview, to help the research team learn more about caregivers' experience with the recording device and how they would use the resulting data.

We will provide you with a **\$50 gift card** as a thank you for your participation in at least three of the five requested days of data collection. If you agree to participate in the debrief interview, we will provide you with an additional **\$25 gift card** as a thank you for your time.

How will this information be used?

Again, we will not use the recordings to evaluate you in any way, and we will not share any of your data back with others outside of our research team. The information gathered will be used to create a machine-learning tool that can identify (in the same way a human can) elements of adults' speech to children that have an influence on child development. This tool would allow coaches to more easily work with caregivers and teachers on advancing their skills.

Identifying information will be removed from recordings. You will be given the opportunity to donate your deidentified data to be shared with other researchers outside of the SRI research team, or included in results reported in research publications and presentations.

Why should I participate?

The long-term goal of this study is to create a tool that can analyze adults' speech to young children and accurately identify speech elements known or hypothesized to support children's development. Speech analysis would become a tool that can inform coaching and professional development and can also be used to conduct research that further associates adults' speech with child developmental outcomes. Your participation is critical to the creation of these tools.

How do I sign up?

Please contact Todd Grindal, the study Principal Investigator, at (339) 224-7349 or Todd.Grindal@sri.com. Someone from the research team will follow up to answer questions, request your consent, and discuss next steps.

For Participant Rights, please contact the IRB at: (650) 859-4022; irb@sri.com.

Announcements

COVID 19 Resources



ABOUT US WHAT WE DO OUR IMPACT RESOURCE HUB GET INVOLVED

[Check out our New Family Shared Reading Program Webpage!](#)

WEEKLY COVID MESSAGE FROM RAR

[November 3, 2020](#)

[November 10, 2020](#)

[November 17, 2020](#)

[Archives](#)

RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

E-Books for Children

- [ALSC Blog](#): A list of free children's eBooks
- [Storyline Online](#): Video streams featuring celebrated actors reading children's books alongside creatively produced illustrations.
- [Barnes and Noble](#): Free children's eBooks for the NOOK
- [Amazon](#): Free eBooks for all ages of children
- [MagicBox](#): Free and appropriate for all ages of children
- [Unite for Literacy](#): Digital books that provide audio narrations in more than 40 languages
- [NC Kids Digital Library](#): Free access with your Charlotte Mecklenburg Library card
- [CovBook](#): An invitation for families to discuss the full range of emotions arising from the current situation.
- [Story Time From Space](#): Books read by astronauts on space stations

Online Storytimes

- [RAR Aspen to Parachute](#) will host Virtual Story Time via Facebook Live twice a week. Join the [English Story Time](#) every Tuesday at 11am and [Spanish Story Time](#) every Wednesday at 11am.
- [Parent Services Project](#): Little Red Reading Hood story times in Spanish on Tuesdays and Thursdays
- [Wayne County Public Library](#): Read Alouds of RAR books
- Operations Story Time: Search the hashtag [#OperationStoryTime](#) on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube to find authors, illustrators and others sharing story time with children.
- [Dolly Parton's Imagination Library](#): Reading a series of Imagination Library books all carefully chosen for their appropriate content at this moment in time.
- [StoryPlace](#): Digital storytime library and activity website in English and Spanish.
- [We Are Teachers](#): Favorite authors are offering online read-alouds and activities on social media.
- [Mondays with Michelle Obama](#): Watch the former First Lady share some of your favorite stories through May 11. This page also features stories read by authors and other creatives.
- [Brightly Storytime](#): Most videos feature highlighted words to follow along. Stories arranged by age, genres, etc., and includes a [Diverse and Inclusive Children Storytime](#) playlist.
- [Adelante Family Resource Center](#): Presents play and learn together. Join Facebook on Tuesday and Thursdays at 9:30 AM for English and Spanish songs, stories, activities and more.

COVID TOOL KIT

[Coronavirus: A Book for Children](#)

[Coronavirus Coloring and Activity Book](#)

[Disinfecting Materials Flyer](#)

[Funding Resources](#)

[Grant Template Language](#)

[How to Create Videos](#)

[Inventory Spreadsheet](#)

[Publisher Permissions](#)

[Parent Family Resources](#)

[Read Aloud Techniques](#)

(courtesy of San Luis Obispo County Office of Education)

[Recording Read Aloud Tips](#)

(courtesy of San Luis Obispo County Office of Education)

[Red Bag Safe Keeping Flyer](#)

[Resource Library](#)

[RAR's Youtube Page](#)

[Safe Reading Routines](#)

[Flyer \(English/Spanish\)](#)

(courtesy of San Luis Obispo County Office of Education)

[Socially Distanced Library Connection](#)

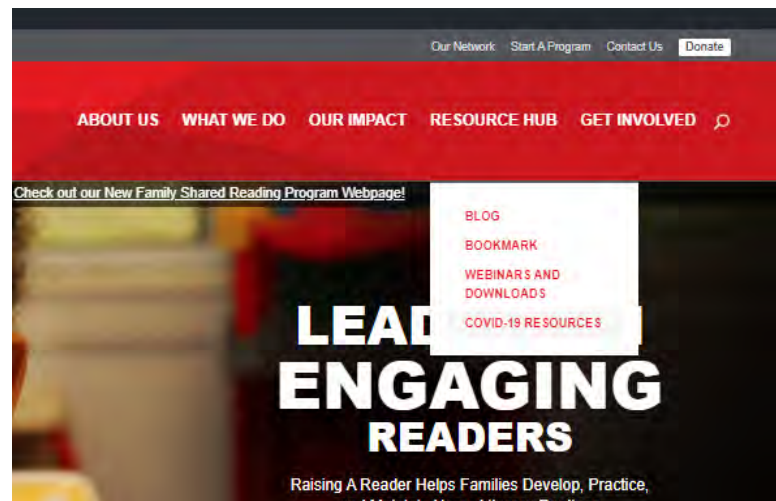
[Surveys](#)

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

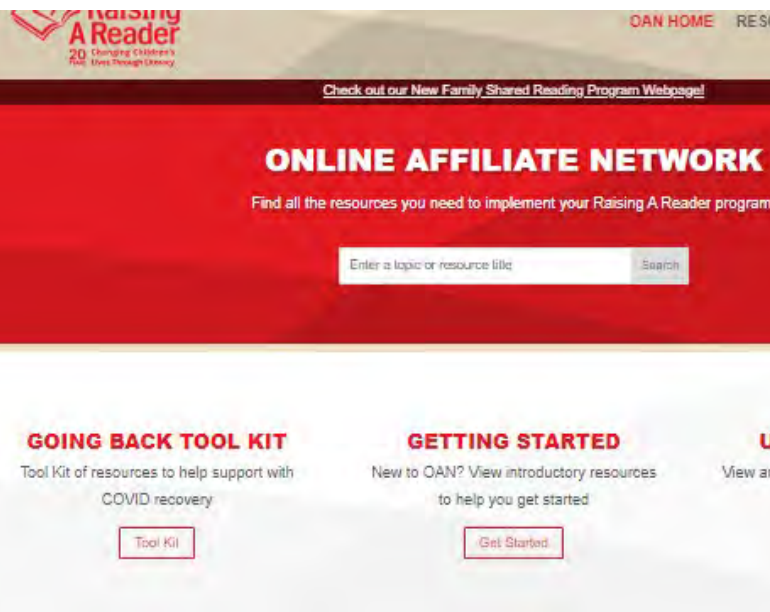
This is a forum for RAR and Affiliates to share resources, ask questions and network-remember, we're in this together! Meetings take place on Friday's at 11 AM PST/2 PM EST. Click [here](#) to register!

RECORDED MEETINGS

If you missed one of our meetings, please click [here](#) to catch up.



Going Back Tool Kit



Kick off your Raising A Reader program planning with these resources.

AUDITING & DISINFECTING

- [Auditing and Collecting RAR Materials](#)
- [Cleaning and Disinfecting RAR Materials](#)
- [Inventory Spreadsheet](#)
- [Safe Reading Routines Flyer](#) (courtesy of San Luis Obispo County Office of Education)

RED BAG ROTATION

- [Red Bag Rotation Model Options Webinar](#)
- [Red Bag Rotation Options](#)
- [Red Bag Safe Keeping Flyer](#)
- [Book Bag Rotation During COVID Flyer](#) (courtesy of RAR Aspen to Parachute)

VIRTUAL FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- [Connecting Virtually with Families Webinar](#)
- [How to Create Videos](#)
- [Parent Family Resources](#)
- [Publisher Permissions](#)
- [Read Aloud Techniques](#) (courtesy of San Luis Obispo County Office of Education)
- [Recording Read Aloud Tips](#) (courtesy of San Luis Obispo County Office of Education)
- [Shared Reading Strategies – RAR's YouTube Page](#)
- Virtual Workshop Series (prepared by Raising A Reader Massachusetts for Raising A Reader National and the Affiliate Network)
 - [Overview and Brain Development Agenda \(English/Spanish\)](#)
 - [English Overview and Brain Development PowerPoint](#)
 - [Spanish Overview and Brain Development PowerPoint](#)
 - [Asking Good Questions Agenda \(English/Spanish\)](#)
 - [English Asking Good Questions PowerPoint](#)
 - [Spanish Asking Good Questions PowerPoint](#)
 - [Expanding On Answers Agenda \(English/Spanish\)](#)
 - [English Expanding on Answers PowerPoint](#)

LIBRARY CONNECTION

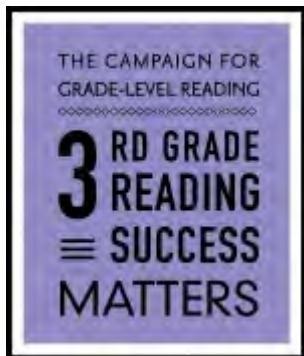
- [Socially Distanced Library Connection](#)
- [Library Resources](#) (courtesy of Monroe County Library)

EVALUATION

- [English Retrospective Survey](#) (courtesy of Children & Youth Partnership for Dare County)
- [Spanish Retrospective Survey](#) (courtesy of Children & Youth Partnership for Dare County)
- [Implementer Survey](#)
- [Implementer End of Year Report](#) (courtesy of United Way of the Desert)

COVID RESEARCH

- [Information from the CDC and COVID articles](#)
- [Libraries Strive to Stay 'Community Living Rooms' as They Reopen](#)
- [Nurturing Teacher-Student Connections in a Virtual World](#)



12:00 PM PT | 3:00 PM ET

[Register here](#)

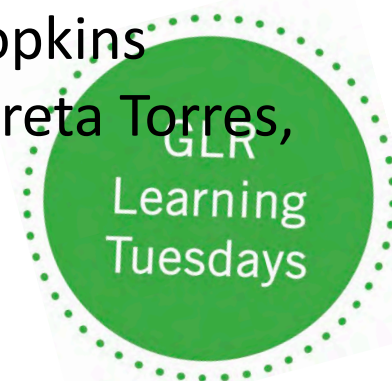
November 24, 2020 @ 3p.m. ET

Teaching Early Reading with a Digital Mindset

Presenter: Dr. Nell Duke, University of Michigan School of Education.

Community Commentators: Karla Brockman, Wildflower Accelerated Academy, Margarita Calderon, Johns Hopkins University, Natasha Hall, Pinellas County Schools, Loreta Torres, San Francisco Unified School District

Continue Every Tuesday, Register [Here](#)



Thank you!

