

Language Groups Running in all 11 Targeted Nurseries



BACKGROUND

The project – funded by the Fairer Scotland Fund and run by East Lothian Speech and Language Therapy – aimed to set up “Talking Time” early language groups in 11 nurseries within the target areas.

NOW

All 11 nurseries have now received training and resources. They have completed at least one set of group sessions. Feedback was very positive! See below for more details...

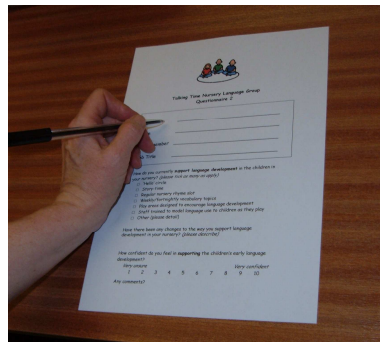
NEXT

A member of staff in each nursery is trained to continue to lead the “Talking Time” groups in the future. All of the nurseries stated that they intended to do this and received a pack of resources to help them achieve this.

EAST LOTHIAN SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY – PROJECT FUNDED BY THE FAIRER SCOTLAND FUND

Talking Time Nursery Language Groups

Feedback Interviews Completed The feedback interviews and questionnaires provided **useful ideas** – for the nurseries themselves as well as for the Speech and Language Therapists running the project.



Useful ideas...

“We use **materials** from the packs whenever time is available... they are handy to whip out”

“We have started using the **visual prompts** for ‘good listening’ and ‘good sitting’ with all the children now”

“We have the **lotto boards** out in the nursery room now”

“Any input for **parents** would be **great**”: Parent drop-in sessions will be carried out in the target nurseries in May and June 2010.

“**More** activities for different vocabulary topics would be good” - We plan to prepare further materials for future language groups.

Thanks again to all the nurseries for their hard work! All the nursery staff that were trained received a certificate for their portfolio.

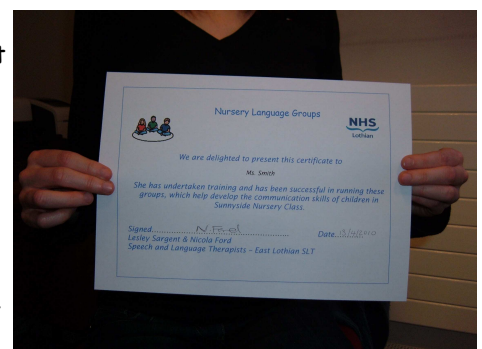
What nursery staff said...

“He’s coming out of his **shell**” - 10/11 nurseries said that the **confidence** of the children in the group improved. This helped them speak out more in the nursery.

“**Sitting down and listening** improved”

“**Behaviour** and co-operation improved in the nursery”

“Instructions were **easy** to follow”

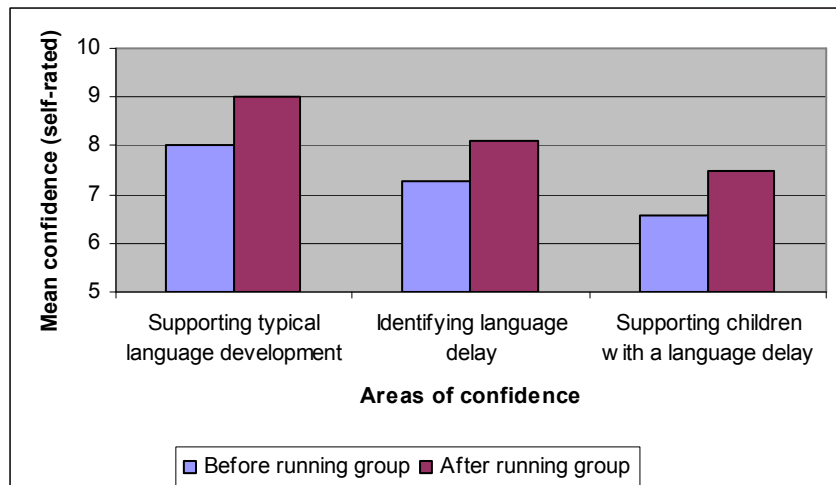


Nursery Staff Confidence Improves!

Edinburgh Talking Time groups mentioned at Parliament!

The Talking Time early language group packs were produced, evaluated and developed by Edinburgh SLTs Elaine Burnett and Julie Gardiner. Thank you again to Elaine and Julie for their support and advice in setting up the East Lothian Talking Time project!

During the recent "Spring into Literacy" event at the Scottish Parliament, Educational Psychologist Heather Gorton gave Talking Time groups as an example of an early intervention to support the development of pre-literacy skills.



Funding

This project was funded by the Fairer Scotland Fund. Nurseries from the pilot site for "Support from the Start" initiative were selected to take part. This pilot site was part of the Scottish Government's "Equally Well" strategy, aiming at reducing health inequalities between areas of Scotland.

Resources provided:

- Folder of session plans and information
- Visual Timetable
- Visual prompts- good looking, good sitting
- Listening CD and matching pictures
- Lotto games for verbs and prepositions
- Vocabulary toys, animals, transport
- Books, teddies, dolls, stickers and much more!



How to get in touch:

- Contact Lesley Sargent or Nicola Ford, Speech & Language Therapists
- Call and leave a message at any time on 0131 536 8140
- Email:
 - Nicola.F.Ford@NHSlothian.scot.nhs.uk
 - Lesley.Sargent@luht.scot.nhs.uk
- The Stableblock, Edenhall Hospital, Pinkieburn, Musselburgh EH21 7TZ

For more information about Equally Well and support from the Start, visit:

<http://Edubuzz.org/blogs/equallywell/>

For more information about the East Lothian Community Planning Partnership (ELCPP) visit:

<http://www.eastlothiancommunityplanning.org.uk/>