

Transcript

The birth of a word

PROFESSOR:

What I'm going to do is take you for a little tour through the speech [INAUDIBLE], one little thread of my son learning to say the word "water," which he originally approximated by saying "gaga" and over the course of about a year learned how to say it in more in the adult form. Notice it's not a simple linear progression. There's some regressions and progressions. This, if you are a developmental psychologist or a speech language pathologist, is magic, the ability to trace a trajectory-- sort of like a flower blossoming, except it's the birth of a word. So no audio-- we're just going to hear from "gaga" to "water."

[AUDIO PLAYBACK]

- Gaga. Gaga. Gaga. Ga-GA. Gaga. Gaga. Gaga. Gaga. Guh-guh. Ga-GA. Gaga. Gaga. Gaga. Guh-guh. Gaga. Gaga. Guh. Gaga.

Wuh-wuh. Ga-wah. Gaga. Gaga. Gaga. Wah-wah. Gaga. Gaga. Gaga. Gaga. Wah-wah. Water. Water. Gaga. Gaga. Ga-wah. Ga-wah. Wa-tche. Wa-tche. Water. Water. Water. Water. Water.

[END PLAYBACK]

PROFESSOR:

Pretty cool, huh?

[APPLAUSE]