Development of Metalinguistic Awareness: Evidence from Children’s Overt Productions

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Development of Metalinguistic Awareness: Evidence from Children's Overt Productions

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Purpose
- To examine young children’s productions of overt statements of metalinguistic awareness and determine whether they change with age.

Methods
- Participants: 33 children aged 3;0 to 5;11.
- Procedures: Children were recorded producing spontaneous language in response to non-language pathologic stimuli.
- Data Collection: Utterances were transcribed and coded for metalinguistic awareness.

Background Information
- Metalinguistic awareness: The ability to reflect on and manipulate the structural features of language (Clark, 1978).
- Developmental progression: Clark’s (1978) rough developmental framework.

Participants
- Total children: 33.
- Ages: 3;0 to 5;11.
- Gender: Equal distribution.

Results
- Total Metalinguistic Utterances: Increases with age.
- Metalinguistic Rates per Minute: Significant differences by age and type.

Discussion
- Metalinguistic awareness: Key to future reading skills.
- Recent studies: Focus on metalinguistic awareness in children.

References