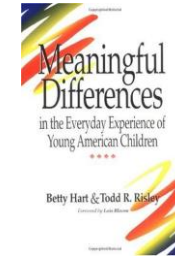


LENA START IN MINNESOTA



THE WORD GAP

The number of words kids hear in early years varies greatly, leading to some kids hearing nearly 30 million fewer words by age three.

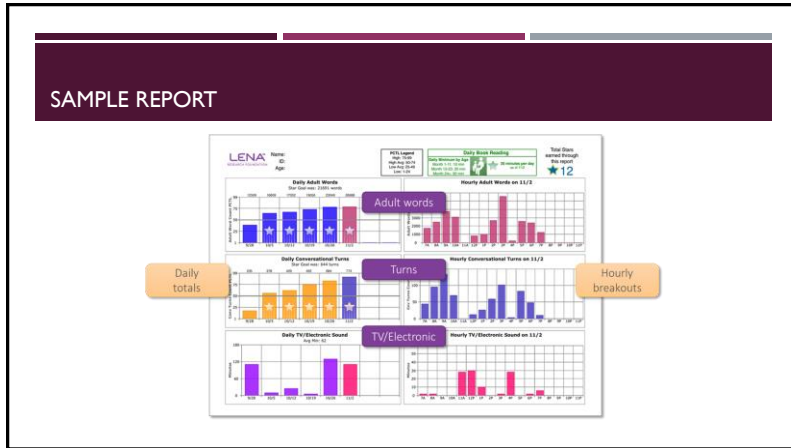


LENA

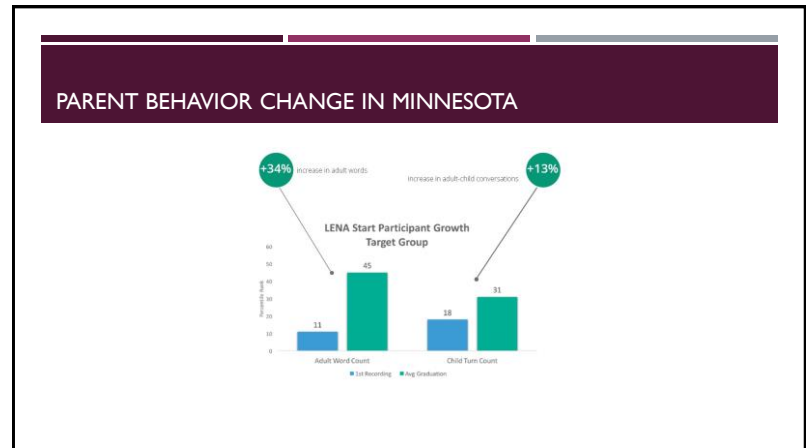
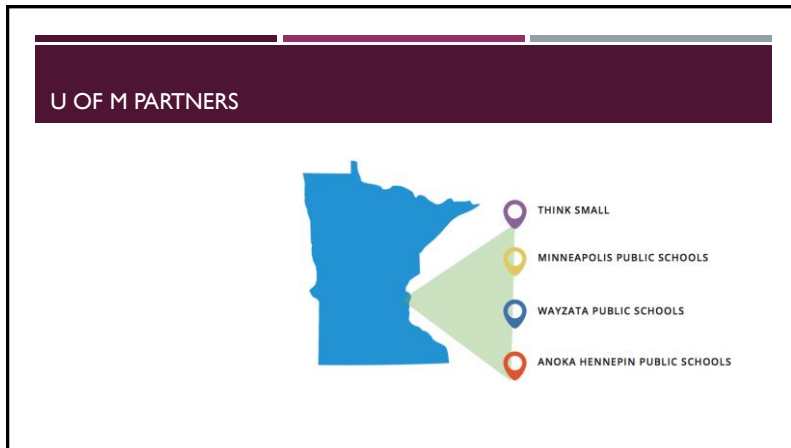
Language ENvironment Analysis – LENA Research Foundation created a “language pedometer”

LENA START

- 13-week parent education program in English and Spanish
- Simple, researched-based talking tips
- Weekly recordings and feedback reports
- Focus on positive parenting, following child’s lead, expanding “serves and returns”



- ### UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA AS HUB
- U of M
 - Training
 - Technical Assistance
 - Support
 - Materials
 - Community Partners
 - Quality facilitators & locations
 - Recruitment
 - Knowledge of community
 - Materials



ACCELERATED LANGUAGE GROWTH



BENEFITS

- Providing powerful and compelling feedback
- Seeing/documenting behavior change
- Detailed materials for facilitating classes
- Parents frequently experience other benefits of talking more with child

CHALLENGES

- Communicating details of unique program/recruiting
- Addressing privacy concerns
- Busy families
- Fitting class into existing program schedules
- Managing expectations of ECFE parents
- Getting adept at processing and prepping recorders
- Working with unique parent groups

THE FUTURE OF LENA START IN MINNESOTA

- Looking for new sites for 2018
- Initial funding runs out end of 2017
- Future funding options being explored and may include district contributions and/or joint fund-raising options

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