

# KODA Kids Language Stimulation Group



## KODA Kids Language Stimulation Group

The Gallaudet University Hearing and Speech Center (GUHSC) is once again offering the KODA Kids Language Stimulation Group for preschool children of deaf/hard-of hearing parents. This group is designed for preschool children to develop their speech and English language skills in a fun, play-based preschool environment. Speech-language pathologists facilitate and support the development and expansion of the participants' speech and language skills, while reinforcing sign language skills during child-centered, hands-on activities within thematic units. Skill areas addressed include the following: speech, expressive and receptive language, social skills, and early literacy.

This fall's KODA Kids group is being offered once weekly between September 5, 2018 and December 5, 2018 from 10:00-10:50 am. The advanced registration deadline is September 1, 2018. Additional registrations will be accepted on an ongoing basis if space is available.

Please contact [gretchen.cronin@gallaudet.edu](mailto:gretchen.cronin@gallaudet.edu) for more information, or to reserve a space.

\*\* Services and session availability are contingent upon the number of children enrolled.

### Group Features

Services are provided by certified, licensed speech-language pathologists

Clinicians are proficient in American Sign Language

Focus on speech and language stimulation within a literacy-rich environment

Serves children age 2.5 years to 5 years  
**(\*Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis)**

Theme-based, developmentally appropriate activities

Morning sessions (10:00-10:50, once weekly)

Low child-to-clinician ratio

**Fall 2018**

**Wednesday, 10:00-10:50**  
**September 5 to December 5, 2018**  
**(on-going admission, space permitting)**



### **Dates:**

September 5, 2018 and December 5, 2018

- Wednesday

### **Times:**

10:00-10:50: KODA Kids Group Program

- Drop-off / Arrival by 9:55 am
- Program from 10:00 am-10:50 am
- Pick-up / Departure between 10:50-11:00 am

### **Ages:**

Preschool children between ages 2.5-5

(\*Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.)

### **Participant Requirements:**

Children in this group should...

- Have parents who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing
- Be "hearing" (\*Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.)
- Wish to learn English language in a bilingual, play-based environment.

### **Fee:**

\$180.00 for the full semester/program; **or**

\$18.50 per session

(\*\*\*Tuition will be pro-rated for applicants who join later in the semester, space permitting. A discount is available for families who register multiple children.)

### **Location**

Gallaudet University is located at 800 Florida Avenue, NE Washington, DC 20002.

The group is held in the new Sorenson Language Communication Center (SLCC).

### **Parking & Transportation**

There is ample parking on campus. Additionally, Gallaudet has a free [shuttle](#) that travels to the NoMa-Gallaudet U and Union Station Metro stops. (Parking passes provided for registered group members/families.)

### **Our Language Stimulation Group focuses on**

#### **the following skills/experiences:**

- **Language & Listening Skills**

Our overall goal is to foster spoken language and listening in a natural play-based environment using a variety of themes. We use a number of different techniques to foster language learning, including **auditory sandwiching**, whereby the children's knowledge of vocabulary in ASL is linked to new vocabulary in English. For each theme, we will incorporate activities, stories, and songs that provide numerous repetitions of the theme-based vocabulary and many opportunities for the children to learn and say these new words to express their wants, needs and experiences.

- **Sensory Play**

Sensory play includes any activity that stimulates your young child's senses: touch, smell, taste, sight and hearing. Through the use of sensory play we narrate our play activities, your child's play, and provide opportunities for your child to express him/herself.

- **Dramatic Play & Literacy**

The children will be involved in dramatic play scripts through story time each week. During circle time, we will read a story that fits our weekly theme. We will often involve the children in various "scripts" and dramatic play activities related to the story, as well.

- **Gross and Fine Motor Skills**

To develop fine- and gross-motor skills we will engage the children in movement activities during circle time and encourage the use of fine (gesturing) and gross (jumping) motor skills. For example, to encourage fine- motor skills we may play with rice at the sensory table or play with "building toys" requiring using of dexterity.

### **For More Information**

Please contact Gretchen Cronin at 202-448-6967 (voice) or [gretchen.cronin@gallaudet.edu](mailto:gretchen.cronin@gallaudet.edu).

You may also call the Gallaudet University Hearing and Speech Center (GUHSC) at 202-651-5328 (voice), or 866-957-1232 (VP).



### **Meet our Coordinator!**

Gretchen Cronin is the Coordinator and Lead Teacher for the KODA Language Stimulation Groups. She joined the Department of Hearing, Speech, and Language Sciences at Gallaudet University in December, 2013 as a Clinical Educator and Speech-Language Pathologist. Gretchen received her Master's degree from Gallaudet University and has over 15 years' experience in working with deaf/hard-of-hearing children and their families, including at the Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick Campus and The Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center. She is also the Coordinator of the Camp SHARP summer program for deaf/hard of hearing preschoolers at GUHSC.