

KODA Tots

Language Stimulation Group



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The Gallaudet University Hearing and Speech Center (GUHSC) is offering a KODA Tots Language Stimulation Group for toddlers (age 1-2) who are children of deaf/hard-of hearing parents. This group is designed for young preschool children to develop their early spoken English language skills in a fun, play-based, bilingual, early intervention 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 Tots group is being offered on Thursdays, February 7 to May 2, 2019. The advanced registration deadline is February 1, 2019. *Additional registrations will be accepted on an ongoing basis if space is available.

Please contact gretchen.cronin@gallaudet.edu for more information.

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

Group Features

Services are provided by certified, licensed speech-language pathologists, assisted by Gallaudet University graduate students.

Clinicians are proficient in American Sign Language

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

Serves children age 1.0 years to 2 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

Spring 2019

Thursday, 10:00-10:50
* February 7 to May 2, 2019
(*on-going admission, space permitting)



Dates:

February 7 to May 2, 2019

- Thursdays

Times:

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

- Arrival by 9:55 am
- Program from 10:00 am-10:50 am
- Dismissal between 10:50-11:00 am

Ages:

Preschool children between ages 1 – 2

(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/practice 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 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 your 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 your children to learn and say (or begin to imitate) 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/Pretend Play & Literacy**

Your children will be involved in dramatic/pretend play and 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 play activities related to the story, as well.

• **Gross and Fine Motor Skills**

To develop fine- and gross-motor skills we will engage your 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 use of dexterity.

For More Information

Please contact Gretchen Cronin at 202-448-6967 (voice) or 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 Tots Language Stimulation Group. 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, and the KODA Kids Language Stimulation Group (for ages 2.5-5 yrs.) at GUHSC.