

Haley Weaver
hjweaver@bu.edu | 315-247-6671 |
<https://hjweaver4.github.io/haley.weaver/>
Department of Speech, Language & Hearing
Boston University

POSITIONS

2025 – Present	Boston University <i>Postdoctoral Research Associate</i> Advisor: Kimberly Crespo
2017 – 2019	Temple University <i>Lab Coordinator</i> Advisor: Dr. Kathy Hirsh-Pasek

EDUCATION

2019 – 2025	University of Wisconsin-Madison <i>Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology</i> Advisor: Jenny Saffran Dissertation: “Constructing meaning: The influence of referent experience on infants' word knowledge.”
2019 – 2021	University of Wisconsin-Madison <i>M.S. in Developmental Psychology</i> Advisor: Jenny Saffran
2013 – 2017	University of Rochester <i>B.S. in Brain and Cognitive Sciences</i> <i>B.A. in Linguistics</i> Advisors: Dr. Richard Aslin, Dr. Erika Bergelson, and Dr. Lauren Emberson Independent Research Topic: Effects of Reading on Word Learning

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2023 – 2024; 2019 – 2020	Graduate School Fellowship – University Wisconsin–Madison
2021	Honorable Mention in the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program
2015	Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences Bilski-Mayer Fellowship for Summer Research – University of Rochester
2015 – 2016	College of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering Continuing Student Scholarship Research – University of Rochester
2013 – 2017	Dean’s Academic Scholarship – University of Rochester

HONORS AND AWARDS

2025	Menzies and Royalty Research Award – University of Wisconsin–Madison
2024	Conference Presentation Award – University of Wisconsin–Madison
2024	Graduate Student Service Scholarship – University of Wisconsin–Madison
2023	Psychology Department Distinguished Service Award – University of Wisconsin–Madison
2022	Paula Menyuk Travel Award for Boston University Conference on Language Development 47
2022	Waisman Center Graduate Student Award – University of Wisconsin–Madison
2016 – 2017	Phi Beta Kappa

PUBLICATIONS

- Published **Weaver, H.** & Saffran, J. (2026). Interrogating early word knowledge: Factors that influence the alignment between caregiver report and experimental measures. *Developmental Science*, 29(1), e70088.
- * co-first author **Weaver, H.** & Saffran, J. (2025). Object Functions and Words Reexamined: Toddlers' Recognition of Function Depends on Object Type. *Journal of Cognition and Development*, 26(5), 816–837.
- Weaver, H.***, Zettersten, M.Z.*, Saffran, J. (2024). Becoming word meaning experts: Infants' processing of familiar words in the context of typical and atypical exemplars. *Child Development*, 95(5), p. e352-e372.
- Dore, R., Scott, M., **Weaver, H.**, Preston, M., Hopkins, E., Collins, M., Lawson- Adams, J., Toub, T.S., Dickinson, D., Golinkoff, R.M., Hirsh-Pasek, K. (2024). For preschoolers, word knowledge falls on a continuum: A novel framework for capturing the incremental process of word learning. *Journal of Child Language*, 1- 26.
- Bacon, D.*, **Weaver, H.***, & Saffran, J. (2021). A framework for online experimenter-moderated looking-time studies assessing infants' linguistic knowledge. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 12.
- In Preparation **Weaver, H.** & Saffran, J. (in prep.). Constructing meaning: The influence of referent experience on infants' word knowledge.
- Contino, C.*, Duncan, A.*, **Weaver, H.**, Khandelwal, M., Crespo, K. (in prep.). Naming accuracy in bilingual children's statistical word learning.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Peer-reviewed proceedings Vest, N. A., **Weaver, H.**, & Alibali, M. W. (2022). Zero in on this: Children are exposed to various concepts of "zero" prior to age six. In J. Culbertson, A. Perfors, H. Rabagliati, & V. Ramenzoni (Eds), *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 3487-3492). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.
- Presentations Marquez, D.** , **Weaver, H.**, & Saffran, J. (2023, August). Investigating caregiver factors that matter for vocabulary checklists. Presentation at the University of Wisconsin–Madison Psychology Research Experience Symposium, Madison, WI.
- ** Student mentee **Weaver, H.** & Saffran, J. (2022, November). Eye-gaze as a window into word level variability in toddlers. Presentation at the Boston University Conference on Language Development 47, Boston, MA.
- Scott, M.E., Preston, M., Hopkins., E., Dore, R., Toub, T., Collins, M., Lawson-Adams, J., Schatz, J., **Weaver, H.**, Dickinson, D., Golinkoff, R., Hirsh-Pasek, K. (2020, May). The Role of self-regulation on word learning in an intervention setting. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the Jean Piaget Society, Philadelphia, PA.
- Scott, M.E., Lawson-Adams, J., Hopkins, E., **Weaver, H.**, Schatz, J., Dore, R., Shirilla, M., Collins, M., Dickinson, D., Golinkoff, R., Hirsh-Pasek, K. (2020, April). The impact of vocabulary ability on word learning in a playful intervention setting. In K. Newman (chair), Fostering child engagement and limiting teacher talk to promote word learning in guided play. Symposium presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco.
- Levine, D., Stites, L. J., Puttre, H., Jackson, E., Gonzalez, M., **Weaver, H.**, Hirsh- Pasek, K., de Villiers, J., Golinkoff, R. M., Iglesias, A. (2019, March). Fast mapping nouns on a tablet-based language screener: Two-year-olds remember only their first guess. In D. Levine (Chair), Language science meets new technology: Measuring early language to advance research and practice.

Symposium conducted at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.

Scott, M.E., **Weaver, H.**, Hadley, E.B., Hopkins, E., Dore, R., Shirilla, M., Collins, M., Lawson, Schatz, J., J., Dickinson, D., Golinkoff, R., Hirsh-Pasek, K. (2019, March). Exploring the semantic structure of children's responses in a vocabulary intervention. In E. Hadley (chair), The Role of Semantic Networks in Early Word- Learning. Symposium conducted at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development: Baltimore, MD.

Shirilla, M., Dore, R., Hopkins, E., Scott, M. E., **Weaver, H.**, Collins, M., Lawson, J., Schatz, J., Toub, T. S., Dickinson, D., Golinkoff, R., & Hirsh-Pasek, K. (2019, March). Morphing meanings: Using a digital app to investigate vocabulary learning beyond simply right or wrong. Paper submitted to the Society for Research and Child Development Biennial Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

Posters

Talluri-Boye, A.** , **Weaver, H.**, Saffran, J. (2025, April). Infant word knowledge: The influence of recent and lifetime experience on comprehension and production. Poster presented at the University of Wisconsin–Madison Introductory Biology 152 Undergraduate Research Poster Symposium, Madison, WI.

Weaver, H. & Saffran, J. (2024, July). Word-level convergent validity between looking-while-listening and caregiver report measures of vocabulary. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the International Congress of Infant Studies, Glasgow, Scotland.

Chang, K.** , **Weaver, H.**, Saffran, J. (2024, May). Convergent validity between caregiver report and toddlers' word knowledge: Examining the role of time spent with the child. Poster presented at the University of Wisconsin–Madison Introductory Biology 152 Undergraduate Research Poster Symposium, Madison, WI.

Weaver, H., Zettersten, M., & Saffran, J. (2024, March). Infants' early word meanings include both typical and atypical category members. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Pasadena, CA.

Badjo, F.** , **Weaver, H.**, & Saffran, J. (2023, April). Do you want to go to the zoo? Infants' experience with animals influences category typicality. Poster presented at the University of Wisconsin–Madison Undergraduate Research Symposium, Madison, WI.

Vest, N.A., **Weaver, H.J.**, & Alibali, M.W. (2022, July). Zero in on this: Children are exposed to various concepts of "zero" prior to age six. Poster presented at the Proceedings of the Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Toronto, Canada.

Weaver, H. & Saffran, J. (2022, April). Can you eat a toothbrush? Toddlers' knowledge of object functions and word meanings. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Madison, WI.

Breitbart, E., **Weaver, H.**, & Lupyan, G. (2022, April). Parent generic language input about categories in a sample of North American English. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Madison, WI.

Zettersten, M., Black, A.K., Bergmann, C., Bacon, D., **Weaver, H.**, Saffran, J. (2020, July). Investigating the relationship between infant learning measured effect size in preferential looking paradigms. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the International Congress of Infant Studies, Glasgow, Scotland, UK.

de Villiers, J., Golinkoff, R. M., Hirsh-Pasek, K., Iglesias, A., Jackson, E., Levine, D., Odean, R., McCollum, R., Puttre, H., & **Weaver, H.** (2019, November). Measuring receptive language competence in two-year-olds: Technological innovations & validity outcomes. Poster presented at

the American Speech and Hearing Association Annual Convention, Orlando, FL.

Jackson, E., Beltran, S., McCollum, R., de Villiers, J., Golinkoff, R. M., Hirsh-Pasek, K., Iglesias, A., Levine, D., Odean, R., Puttre, H., & **Weaver, H.** (2019, November). Using technology to measure receptive language in 2-year-olds: Development of a touchscreen language screener. Poster presented at the American Speech and Hearing Association Annual Convention, Orlando, FL.

de Villiers, J., Jackson, E., McCollum, R., Golinkoff, R. M., Hirsh-Pasek, K., Iglesias, A., Levine, D., Odean, R., Puttre, H. & **Weaver, H.** (2019, June). Developing a touchscreen language comprehension screener for two-year-olds. Poster presented at the 40th annual meeting of the Society for Research in Child Language Disorders, Madison, WI.

Weaver, H., Puttre, H., Odean, R., Levine, D., Jackson, E., McCollum, R., Iglesias, A., de Villiers, J., Golinkoff, R. M., Hirsh-Pasek, K. (2019, May). Screening two- year-olds for language issues through comprehension: Convergent validity of the Baby QUILS with the MCDI. Poster presented at the 31st Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention, Washington, D.C.

Levine, D., Odean, R., **Weaver, H.**, Puttre, H., Jackson, E., McCollum, R., Stites, L. J., Hirsh-Pasek, K., Golinkoff, R. M., de Villiers, J., & Iglesias, A. (2019, March). Socioeconomic differences in vocabulary, syntax, and process at age two: Assessment with Baby QUILS. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Preconference on Bridging the Word Gap, Baltimore, MD.

Scott, M.E., Hopkins, E., Collins, M., Dore, R., Lawson, J., Shirilla, M., Schatz, J., **Weaver, H.**, Toub, T.S., Dickinson, D., Golinkoff, R., & Hirsh-Pasek, K. (2018, June). Exploring the nuance of learning words through play. Poster presented at the 16th Annual Cross University Collaborative Mentoring Conference, Cambridge, MA.

Scott, M.E., Hopkins, E., Collins, M., Dore, R., Lawson, J., Shirilla, M., Schatz, J., **Weaver, H.**, Toub, T.S., Dickinson, D., Golinkoff, R., & Hirsh-Pasek, K. (2018, June). Exploring the nuance of learning words through play. Poster presented at the 16th Annual Cross-University Collaborative Mentoring Conference, Cambridge, MA.

INVITED TALKS

Spring 2026

2022 Department of Psychology Developmental Area Group Seminar, University of Chicago

TEACHING

2024	Instructor of record, Current Topics in Psychology: Studying Infant Development (PSYCH 601)
2023	Guest Lecturer, Language Acquisition in Infancy and Early Childhood (PSYCH 711)
2022	Teaching Assistant, Cognitive Development (PSYCH 502)
2021	Reader/Grader, Language, Mind, and Brain (PSYCH 413)

MENTORING & OUTREACH EXPERIENCE

Mentoring	2025	Master's Thesis Student: <i>Sela Wyetzner</i>
	2025	Biology 152: <i>Amari Talluri-Boye</i>
	2024	Biology 152: <i>Kayla Chang</i>
	2023	NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates, Psychology Research Experience Program: <i>Dalia Marquez</i>
	2020 – 2021	Honors Thesis Student: <i>Malika Toguem</i>
Outreach	2020 – 2025	Early Childhood Program Leader, UW Odyssey Project, Odyssey Junior

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2025	Volunteer for the Boston University Conference on Language Development, Boston University
2024	Panelist on the Psychology Career Paths event, UW-Madison Chapter of Psi Chi
2024	Panelist on the Demystifying Graduate School Dinner hosted by College of Letters & Science Honors Program, UW–Madison
2023 – 2024	Accommodations Committee, UW–Madison
2023 – 2024; 2020 – 2021	First Year Graduate Student Support System Mentor, UW–Madison
2021 – 2022	Department of Psychology Graduate Student Representative, UW-Madison
2021 – 2024	Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders (SRCLD) Planning Committee, UW–Madison
2020 – 2023	Lookit Working Group for Recruiting Inclusive Samples, Massachusetts Institution of Technology
2019 – 2025	Department of Psychology Colloquium Series Committee, Co-chair (2023-2024)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Cognitive Development Society
International Congress of Infant Studies
Golden Key International Honor Society