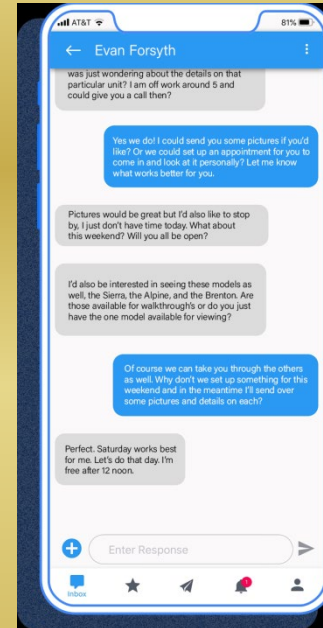# Communication with Infants: Power & Practices

Dr. Douglas Bell
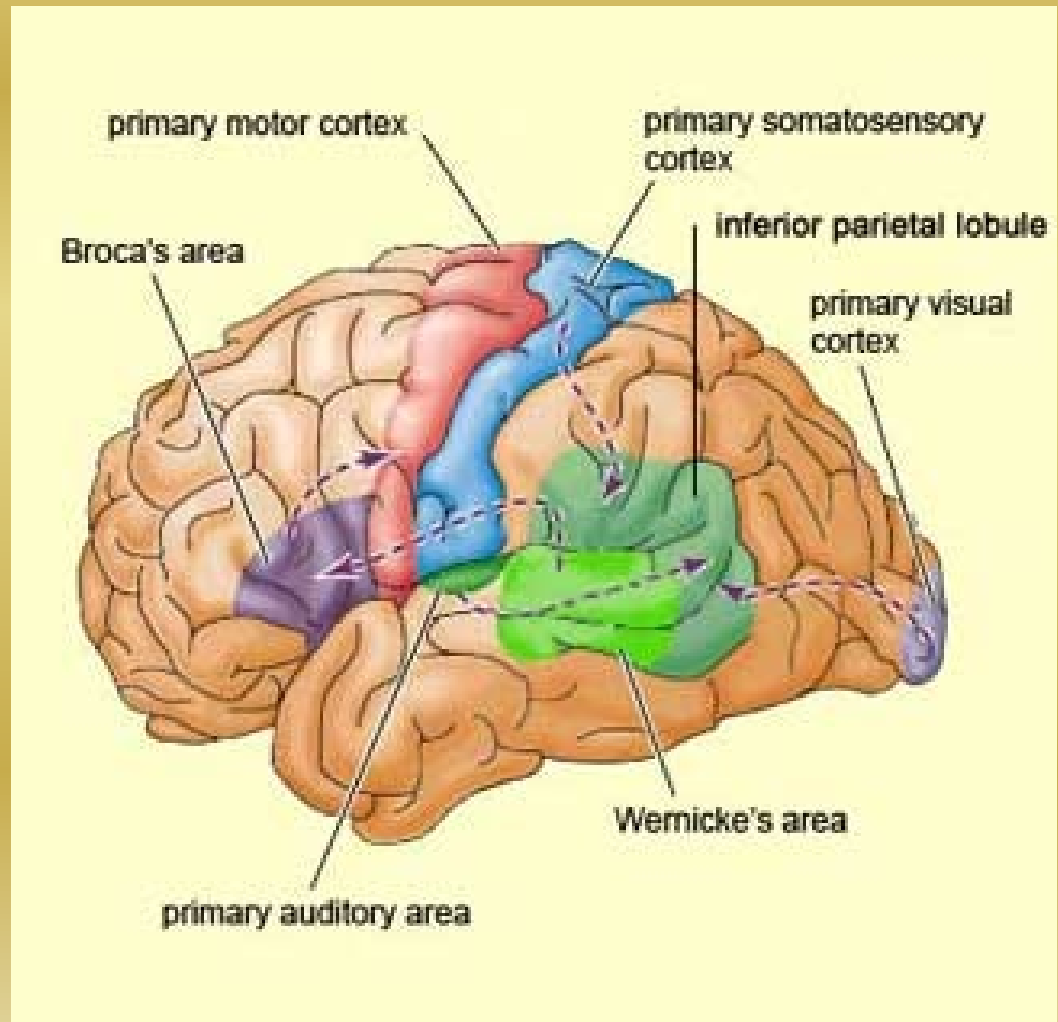
dbell22@kennesaw.edu

Communication

Impact

- Communication development in the first three years impact important things later in life
  - Language
  - Literacy
  - Social & Emotional skills
  - Learning

Communication & the Brain

Harvard Brain

- https://www.brainfacts.org/3d-brain#intro=false&focus=Brain

Serve & Return

Do:

- Pausing for the infant to respond
- Taking turns
- Back and forth
- Question and response (open ended)

Don't:

- Directives
- Ordering
- Describing
- Labeling
- Correcting
- Naming
- Closed ended questions (it does not keep the circuit going)

Harvard Serve & Return Video

- https://developingchild.harvard.edu/resources/serve-return-interaction-shapes-brain-circuitry/

Strategies

- Joint Attention
- Questions
- Notice or Describe
  - Parallel talk
  - Self talk
- Label

Let's Process

- Click the link to the google slides
- See what number group you are
- Scroll down to that number slide
- Talk with your group about each scenario and drag it to the appropriate heading and cover the picture. (sometimes they go under each other after you place them so don't worry about that)
- https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1fSLFQcPOceTpFLecdMVJCU9rj-qZU9Xs-euGSuOTe4c/edit?usp=sharing

Serve & Return Steps

- https://46y5eh11fhgw3ve3ytpwxt9r-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/HCDC_ServeReturn_for_Parents_Caregivers_2019.pdf

- Notice serve and share attention

- Return serve by supporting and encouraging

- Give it a name

- Take turns and wait. Keep it going back & forth

- Practice endings and beginnings

A Scenario

Yasmeen is crawling to the rug where the rattles are. Ms. Shirley noticed Yasmeen looking at the rattle with the clear ball on the end filled with different colored beads. How can she use serve and return, combined with communication scaffolding strategies to build communication skills with Yasmeen?

- Joint Attention
- Questions
- Notice or Describe
  - Parallel talk
  - Self talk
- Label