



Mikhulu Child Development Trust  
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[www.mikhulutrust.org](http://www.mikhulutrust.org)

## **Academic Studies on the Mikhulu Trust's Book-Sharing Programme**

Updated January 2019 | [www.mikhulutrust.org/research](http://www.mikhulutrust.org/research)

### **Published papers**

Cooper PJ, Vally Z, Cooper H, Radford, T, Sharples, A., Tomlinson, M. & Murray, L. (2014) Promoting Mother–Infant Book Sharing and Infant Attention and Language Development in an Impoverished South African Population: A Pilot Study. *Early Childhood Education Journal*, 42(2): 143-52.

Vally Z, Murray L, Tomlinson M, Cooper PJ. (2015) The impact of dialogic book-sharing training on infant language and attention: a randomized controlled trial in a deprived South African community. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 56(8): 865-73. 108.

Murray L, De Pascalis L, Tomlinson M, Vally, Z, Dadomo, H, MacLachlan, B, Woodward, C, Cooper, P.J. (2016) Randomized controlled trial of a book-sharing intervention in a deprived South African community: effects on carer–infant interactions, and their relation to infant cognitive and socioemotional outcome. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 57(12): 1370-9. 109.

Tomlinson, M., Skeen, S., Marlow, M., Cluver, L., Cooper, P., Murray, L., Mofokeng, S., Morley, N., Makhetha, M., Gordon, S., Esterhuizen, T. & Sherr, L. (2016) Improving early childhood care and development, HIV testing, treatment and support, and nutrition in Mokhotlong, Lesotho: a cluster randomized control trial of an integrated intervention. *Trials*, 17.1, 538.

Dowdell, N., Cooper, P.J., Tomlinson, M., Skeen, S., Gardner, F. & Murray, L. (2017) The Benefits of Early Book Sharing (BEBS) study: protocol of a randomised controlled trial conducted in South Africa of a book sharing intervention to improve child cognitive and socio-emotional development. *Trials*, 18, 118-131.

Murray, L., Jennings, S., Mortimer, A., Prout, A., Melhish, E., Hughes, C., Duncan, J. Holmes, J. Dishington. C & Cooper, P.J. (2018) The Impact of Early-years Provision In Children's Centres (EPICC) on child cognitive and socio-emotional development: study protocol for a randomised controlled trial. *Trials*, 819:450.

Dowdall, N., Melendez-Torres, G.J., Murray, L., Gardiner, F., Hartford, L., & Cooper, P. (2019) Shared picture book reading interventions for child language development: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Child Development*, in press.

## **Studies in progress**

We are providing technical support to several academic organisations conducting randomised controlled trials (RCTs) of our dialogic book-sharing programme. These studies investigate the impact of book-sharing on language and cognitive development, social understanding and socio-emotional development, violence prevention, and addressing language delay.

These studies are supported by the Medical Research Council, USAID, the Wellcome Trust, and the Nuffield Foundation, among other funders.

### **Africa:**

Stellenbosch University, South Africa. An RCT investigating the impact of book-sharing on children's social understanding and socio-emotional development in Khayelitsha. Supported by the Medical Research Council.

Stellenbosch University. Lesotho. An RCT investigating the utility of book-sharing programmes for promoting child language and social functioning in rural Lesotho. Supported by USAID.

University of Cape Town, South Africa. An RCT, embedded within a longitudinal birth cohort study, comparing the impact of book-sharing on two populations in Drakenstein.

### **South America:**

Federal University of Pelotas, Brazil. An RCT, embedded within a longitudinal birth cohort study, investigating the impact of early book-sharing on violence prevention. Supported by the Wellcome Trust.

University of Bogota, Colombia. An RCT investigating the impact of book-sharing on an impoverished community in Bogota.

### **North America:**

University of Kansas, United States of America. An RCT investigating the efficacy of book-sharing in intervening early in children with language delay.

### **Asia:**

University of Göttingen, India. An RCT investigating the impact of book-sharing delivered as a home-visiting programme compared to a nutrition intervention.

### **Europe:**

University of Reading, United Kingdom. An RCT investigating the impact of book-sharing on school-preparedness amongst disadvantaged children attending Children's Centres in Reading. Supported by the Nuffield Foundation.

