

THE EFFECT OF MODIFIED MELODIC INTONATION THERAPY ON SPEECH PRODUCTION OF
CHILDREN WHO HAVE DEVELOPMENTAL APRAXIA OF SPEECH

The purpose of this study was to determine the effects of modified Melodic Intonation Therapy on the speech production of children with Developmental Apraxia of Speech. A single system design with baseline reversal (ABABABABA) was used in this investigation. Participants included 2 males, ages four and seven, who had a diagnosis of Developmental Apraxia of Speech. Participants underwent four, 40-minute Melodic Intonation Therapy sessions and five, 40-minute Speech-Language Pathology sessions. Speech sounds (phonemes), sequencing, blending, and production were examined after Melodic Intonation Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology sessions for the duration of five weeks. Scores of speech production abilities were taken in weeks one and six with the Goldman-Fristoe Test of Articulation, 2nd edition, and the Khan-Lewis Phonological Assessment, 2nd edition. A speech production test was completed after each session to score production and blending abilities in target words containing different consonant-vowel arrangements and multisyllabic words. Results of the Goldman-Fristoe Test of Articulation, 2nd edition, and the Khan-Lewis Phonological Analysis, 2nd edition, showed no significant difference. The results of the speech production test also showed no significant difference. Qualitative gains included slower speech, the production of more syllables, better sequencing of phonemes, and the ability to self-initiate rhythmic tapping for speech production. Further research is suggested to include a larger sample size, longer treatment interval, and more sensitive testing measures.

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