**Language\_data.readME file**

**Background**

Trained research assistants completed the CELF Preschool-2 and BPVS3 language tests with 3- to 4-year old children in their nursery prior to the intervention starting (baseline) and four weeks after the reading groups had finished to ensure sufficient time for any vocabulary gains to develop. All testing took place within a strict three week window. In accordance with CONSORT guidelines, research assistants who conducted the language testing were blind to group allocation.

The Clinical Evaluation of Language Fundamentals - Preschool 2 UK (CELF Preschool-2) (Wiig, Secord, & Semel, 2004) measures a broad range of expressive and receptive language abilities. We used all three subtests from the CELF Preschool-2 core language score scale: sentence structure, word structure, and expressive vocabulary. A core language standardised score which accounts for children’s age is generated from the three raw scores. Core language standardised scores range from 45 to 155.

The British Picture Vocabulary Scale Third Edition (BPVS3) (Dunn, Dunn, Styles, & Sewell, 2009) assesses children’s receptive vocabulary from the age of 3-16 years. Standardised scores range from 70 to 139+.

**Excel files**

In the excel file, there is a data dictionary tab which explains each of the variables in the excel files: one for CELF scores and one for BPVS scores. Twenty participants from the stidy did not consent for their data to be uploaded to the UK data service. Therefore we have removed data from these participants. Those researchers wishing to replicate our analyses should contact Jamie Lingwood: j.lingwood:leeds.ac.uk