

## MOTOR ANALYSIS OF INFANT SOUND

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In literature a phonological approach to the sounds of children in the first year of life is common, although the period is said to be prelinguistic (why not preadult?).

In this paper we report on a new way of infant sound analysis. We do not listen to linguistic elements in the sounds. We relate the sounds to events in the speech apparatus, noting separately respiration, phonation and articulation. A special system of symbols has been developed.

Knowledge of the infant's anatomy, physiology and development is indispensable.

Non-crying sounds of two male infants have been analysed from birth to eight months.

This way of analysing the infant sound production makes it possible to give a precise definition of babbling.

The philosophy behind this approach is the opinion that speech is in the first place a sequence of movements. A behaviouristic study of speech will be quite revealing.

In speech development the child learns to relate (speech) movements to meaning. Parent-child interaction is essential for this learning process.

References

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