

Title:

From Closed Doors to Open Access: Navigating Open Science in Child Language Disability Research

Abstract:

Open Science is an international movement to democratize knowledge by making scientific research more transparent, accessible, replicable, and collaborative. While its principles are universal, its implementation in child language research requires a specialized approach. As child language researchers, we must continually balance the desire for greater transparency with the complexities of working with a diverse group of children with language disabilities and their caregivers.

This tutorial aims to build child language disability researchers' enthusiasm for (or at the very least curiosity about!) Open Science by (a) providing a practical framework for integrating it into researchers' current workflows and (b) discussing the nuances of this integration. The session is thus organized around three main objectives. First, it will introduce Open Science principles and common practices, such as study pre-registration, open materials, open data, and self-archiving. It will highlight where, when, and how these practices can align with typical research workflows. Second, it will provide practical strategies for turning open science ideals into concrete actions. For example, it will spotlight generalist platforms (e.g., Open Science Framework) alongside field-specific resources (e.g., the CHILDES database). Finally, it will invite participants to consider the "push and pull" of Open Science. It will discuss how these practices can enhance the replicability of findings and foster global participation, but not without time and resource constraints and field-specific challenges, such as data privacy. Overall, by the end of this session, participants will have a clear, yet judicious, roadmap for integrating Open Science principles and practices into their work, with encouragement to choose their own (Open Science) adventure!