

How to Measure Talk With LENA

The LENA device counts the number of words — and conversational turns — in your classroom. Make sure your LENA devices are recording properly in order to collect the highest quality classroom data possible.



1. Turn on.

As each child arrives, find their labeled LENA device and vest. Press the POWER button and wait until the device powers on. When the screen says Paused, the device is ready.



2. Press record.

Hold the RECORD button until the screen says Recording.



3. Put on, leave on.

Place the LENA device into the pocket of the vest. Make sure the side with the screen is facing out. Snap the pocket closed, then put the vest on the child.



4. Turn off.

When a child leaves for the day, take off the vest. Remove the device from the pocket, and press and hold the POWER button until the screen turns off.



Caution: Do not press "Record" until you are ready to start your first LENA Day.

LENA Day Tips

- **Record all day.** Keep the device turned on and in the vest all day long, until the child leaves.
- **Limit layers.** Keep the device uncovered as often as possible.
- **Keep LENA dry.** The device can handle small spills, but it is not waterproof. Use a smock during water play.
- **Wear during naps or place nearby.** Be sure to follow safe sleep practices.

Special Circumstances

Don't let last-minute changes affect your LENA Day recording.

If children arrive late, leave early, or are absent:

- If a child arrives late, turn on the device when they arrive.
- If a child leaves early, turn off the device when they leave.
- If more than half the class is absent, consider postponing your LENA Day. You do not need to do a makeup day for children who are absent.

If teachers are absent:

- If a participating teacher is absent or will only be present for a few hours, consider postponing your LENA Day.
- Explain how the device works to any substitute or float teachers prior to recording.