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Curriculum Vitae

**Joanna Blake**

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Dept. of Psychology  
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271 Wychwood Ave.  
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**Education**

**B.A.**, 1960, French, Wellesley College  
High School Teaching Certificate, 1963, University of California at Berkeley  
**Ph.D.**, 1972, Developmental Psychology, City University of New York  
Thesis title: A Developmental Study of Speed and Strategy in Visual  
Information Processing, Using Backward Masking

**Current position**

Professor Emerita, Dept. of Psychology, York University, July, 2004  
Appointed Sept., 1971

**Previous positions**

Visiting Assistant Professor, Dept. of Psychology, State University of New York at Stony  
Brook, 1975-76  
Research Associate, Lexington School for the Deaf, Jackson Heights, Queens, NY, 1969-  
71  
Research Assistant, Research Institute for Educational Problems, Cambridge, MA, 1966-  
67  
Research Assistant, Columbia School of Social Work, Mobilization for Youth Project,  
NY, NY, 1964-66  
French teacher, South High School, Valley Stream, NY, 1963-64  
French teacher, Berkeley High School, Berkeley, Calif., 1962-63

**Books**

Blake, J. (2000). *Routes to child language: Evolutionary and developmental precursors*. NY:  
Cambridge University Press.

## Chapters in Books

- Blake, J., Vitale, G., Osborne, P., & Olshansky, E. (2007). A cross-cultural comparison of communicative gestures in human infants during the transition to language. In K. Liebal, C. Müller, & S. Pika (Eds.), *Gestural communication in nonhuman and human Primates*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- Blake, J. (2004). Communicative abilities in great apes in cognitive perspective. In A. E. Russon & D. R. Begun (eds.), *Evolutionary origins of great ape intelligence*. Cambridge University Press.

## Articles (refereed)

- Blake, J., Myszczyzyn, D., Jokel, A., & Bebiroglu, N. (2008). Gestures accompanying speech in specifically language-impaired children and their synchrony with speech. *First Language*, 28, 237-253.
- Blake, J., Macdonald, S., Bayrami, L., Agosta, V., & Milian, A. (2006). Book reading styles in dual parent and single mother families. *British Journal of Educational Psychology*, 76, 501-5115.
- Blake, J., Vitale, G., Osborne, P., Olshansky, E. (2005). A cross-cultural comparison of communicative gestures in human infants during the transition to language. *Gesture*, 5, 197-213.
- Blake, J., Myszczyzyn, D. & Jokel, A. (2004). Spontaneous measures of morphosyntax in specifically language-impaired children. *Applied Psycholinguistics*, 25, 29-41.
- Blake, J., Osborne, P., Cabral, M., & Gluck, P. (2003). The development of communicative gestures in Japanese infants. *First Language*, 23, 3-20.
- Stevens, E., Blake, J., Vitale, G., & Macdonald, S. (1998). Mother-infant object involvement at 9 and 15 months: relation to infant cognition and early vocabulary. *First Language*, 18, 203-222.
- Blake, J., Olshansky, E., Vitale, G., & Macdonald, S. (1997). Are communicative gestures the substrate of language? *Evolution of Communication*, 1, 261-282.
- Kushnir, C. & Blake, J. (1996). The nature of the cognitive deficit in specific language impairment. *First Language*, 16, 21-40.
- Blake, J., Austin, W., Cannon, M., Lisus, A., & Vaughan, A. (1994). The relationship between memory span and measures of imitative and spontaneous language complexity in preschool children. *International Journal of Behavioral Development*, 17, 91-107.

- Blake, J., O'Rourke, P., & Borzellino, G. (1994). Form and function in the development of pointing and reaching gestures. *Infant Behavior and Development, 17*, 195-203.
- Blake, J., & Dolgoy, S. J. (1993). Gestural development and its relation to cognition during the transition to language. *Journal of Nonverbal Behavior, 17*, 87-102.
- Blake, J., Quartaro, G., & Onorati, S. (1993). Evaluating quantitative measures of grammatical complexity in spontaneous speech samples. *Journal of Child Language, 20*, 139-152.
- Blake, J., & de Boysson-Bardies, B. (1992). Patterns in babbling: A cross-linguistic study. *Journal of Child Language, 19*, 51-74.
- Blake, J., McConnell, S., Horton, G., & Benson, N. (1992). The gestural repertoire and its evolution over the second year. *Early Development and Parenting, 1*, 127-136.
- Blake, J., Austin, W., & Lowenstein, J. (1987). The effect of enactment upon sentence imitation in preschool children. *Journal of Psycholinguistic Research, 16*, 351-367.
- Blake, J., & Fink, R. (1987). Sound-meaning correspondences in babbling. *Journal of Child Language, 14*, 229-253.
- Blake, J., & Duffy, J. (1986). The effects of visual backward masking on young children and adults. *Acta Psychologica, 61*, 197-210.
- Blake, J., & Vingilis, E. (1977). Developmental change in the temporal course of tachistoscopic recognition. *Developmental Psychology, 13*, 39-46.
- Vingilis, E., Blake, J., & Theodor, L. (1977). Recognition vs. recall of visually vs. acoustically confusable letter matrices. *Memory & Cognition, 5*, 146-150.
- Blake, J., (1976). Parallel processing of spatial and identity information in young children. *Perception and Psychophysics, 20*, 403-407.
- Blake, J., & Beilin, H. (1975). The development of same and different judgements. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology, 19*, 177-194.
- Blake, J. (1974). Developmental change in visual information processing under backward masking. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology, 17*, 133-146.
- Carey, P. W., & Blake, J. (1974). Visual short-term memory in the hearing and the deaf. *Canadian Journal of Psychology, 28*, 1-14.

### **Articles (Non-refereed)**

- Blake, J., & Maiese, N. (2008). The benefits of the bedtime story are no fairy tale. *The Psychologist*.

Blake, J. (2001). How early should parents start reading books with their infants? *IMPrint*. Newsletter of the Infant Mental Health Promotion Project, The Hospital for Sick Children, 30, 5-6.

Blake, J. (1980). Parallel processing of same and different form arrays in children and adults. *Perceptual and Motor Skills*, 50, 1011-1018.

### **Papers in Published Conference Proceedings**

Blake, J., Macdonald, S., Agosta, V., Bayrami, L., & Milian, A. (2002). Do mothers and fathers differ in their book reading styles with their young children? *13<sup>th</sup> Biennial International Conference on Infant Studies*, ed. by M. A. Schmuckler, S. E. Trehub, & V. F. Kosarev.

Blake, J., Manchisi, M., Tannenbaum, R., & Borzellino, G. (1996). Book reading and early vocabulary. *Infant Behavior & Development*, 19, 338.

Stevens, E. & Blake, J. (1994). Developmental processes in object involvement in Italian-Canadian mothers and infants. *Infant Behavior & Development*, 17, 962.

Blake, J., O'Rourke, P., & Borzellino, G. (1992). Form and function in gestural development. *Infant Behavior & Development*, 15, 314.

### **In-house Publications**

Blake, J. & Quartaro, G. (1990). Manual for recording, transcribing, and analyzing speech samples of preschool children. York University, Dept. of Psychology Research Report #189.

### **Articles Submitted for Publication**

Blake, J., Vetere, A., Vitale, G. Shared book reading in Italian-Canadian Mother-infant dyads.

Blake, J., Fredette, C., Karaoylas, E., & Osborne, P. Maternal gestures in two cultures: Japanese and Italian-Canadian.

### **Conference Presentations (refereed)**

Blake, J., Fredette, C., Karaoylas, E., & Osborne, P. (2008, March). A cross-cultural comparison of maternal gestures to Japanese and Italian-Canadian infants. Paper presented at the 16<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Infant Studies, Vancouver, B.C.

Blake, J., & Osborne, P. (2006, June). Features of babbling, in different environments. Paper presented at the 15<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Infant Studies, Kyoto, Japan.

- Blake, J., Bebiroglu, N., Myszczyzyn, D., & Jokel, A. (2004, July). Timing of gestures accompanying speech in specifically language-impaired children and their normally developing peers. Paper presented at the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development Ghent, Belgium.
- Blake, J., Macdonald, S., Bayrami, L., & Agosta, V. (2002, August). A comparison of mothers' book reading styles in single vs. dual parent families. Paper presented at the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development, Ottawa.
- Blake, J., Myszczyzyn, D., & Jokel, A. (2002, July). Gestures accompanying speech in specifically language-impaired children. Paper presented at the 9<sup>th</sup> International Congress for the Study of Child Language and the Symposium on Research in Child Language Disorders, Madison, Wisconsin.
- Blake, J., Macdonald, S., Agosta, V., Bayrami, L. & Milian, A. (2002, April). Do mothers and fathers differ in their book-reading styles with their young children? Paper presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies, Toronto.
- Blake, J., Osborne, P., Gluck, P. & Cabral, M. (2001, April). Development of communicative gestures in Japanese infants. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Minneapolis.
- Blake, J., Weeden, A. & Osborne, P. (2000, July). Babbling drift: A look at consonantal performance and syllable structure in four language environments. Paper presented at the meeting of the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development, Beijing.
- Blake, J., Mason, D., Jokel, A., DeToma, S., O'Connell, C. & Maiese, R. (1999, April). Quantitative measures of morphosyntax in the spontaneous speech of SLI children and their peers. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Blake, J., Borzellino, G., Osborne, P., Mason, D., & Macdonald, S. (1997, April). Predicting language at 3 years from infant babbling and gestures. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Washington, N.C.
- Borzellino, G., Blake, J., & Vetere, A. (1997, April). Maternal responsivity and infant language development. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Washington, D.C.
- Macdonald, S., Blake, J., & Borzellino, G. (1996, August). Effective communication in children and its relationship to early language variables. Paper presented at the 26<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Psychology, Montréal.
- Blake, J., Vetere, A., Manchisi, M., Borzellino, G., & Tannenbaum, R. (1996, April). Book reading and early vocabulary. Paper presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial International Conference on Infant Studies, Providence, R.I.

- Blake, J., Stevens, E., & Borzellino, G. (1995, June). Maternal verbalizations in joint object play and infants' early vocabulary. Paper presented at the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium of the Jean Piaget Society, Berkeley, California.
- Blake, J., Osborne, P., Borzellino, G., & Macdonald, S. (1995, March). Variation in babbling: Potential sources and consequences. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Indianapolis, Indiana.
- Borzellino, G., & Blake, J. (1995, March). Stability in maternal responsivity in a sample of Italian-Canadian mother-infant dyads. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Indianapolis, Indiana.
- Stevens, E., & Blake, J. (1994, June). Developmental processes in object involvement in Italian-Canadian mothers and infants. Paper presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies, Paris.
- Borzellino, G., & Blake, J. (1993, March). Verbal and nonverbal responsivity to infants' vocalizations and gestures among Italian-Canadian mother-infant dyads. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, New Orleans.
- Blake, J., & Dolgoy, S. (1992, September). Change in the gestural repertoire during the transition to language: A cross-cultural comparison. Paper presented at the V<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Developmental Psychology, Seville.
- Blake, J., O'Rourke, P., & Borzellino, G. (1992, May). Form and function in gestural development. Paper presented at the International Conference on Infant Studies, Miami Beach.
- Blake, J., McConnell, S., & Benson, N. (1991, April). The evolution of gestures in the second year. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Seattle.
- Blake, J., & de Boysson-Bardies, B. (1989, July). Patterns in babbling: A cross-linguistic study. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development, University of Jyväskylä, Finland.
- Blake, J., Quartaro, G., Austin, W. & Vingilis, E. (1989, April). Does memory span constrain language complexity? Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Kansas City.
- Blake, J. & de Boysson-Bardies, B. (1988, May). A cross-linguistic study of sound-meaning correspondences in babbling. Paper presented at the Conference on Child Development, University of Waterloo.

- Holloway, R., Blake, J., & Pascual-Leone, J. (1987, April). Relations between cognitive and communicative abilities in infancy. Paper presented by the second author at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore.
- Blake, J., & McConnell, S. (1984, May). The role of gestures in the transition to language. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting on Child Development, University of Waterloo.
- Blake, J., Austin, W., & Lowenstein, J. (1983, April). Sentence imitation: Can young children remember more when they process in greater depth? Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Detroit.
- Blake, J., Quartaro, G., Austin, W., & Vingilis, E. (1982, May). Memory capacity and language complexity. Paper presented at the Biennial Meeting on Child Development, University of Waterloo.
- Oxman, J., & Blake, J. (1980, September). Sign language use by autistic children: A pragmatic analysis. Paper presented at meeting of the American Psychological Association, Montreal.
- Blake, J., & Fink, R. (1980, May). The case for a semantic system in late babbling. Paper presented at the Conference on Child Development, University of Waterloo.

#### **Conference Presentations (non-refereed)**

- Blake, J., Osborne, P., Gluck, P., & Cabral, M. (2001, May). Development of communicative gestures in Japanese infants. Paper presented at the annual in-house conference of the York University Psychology Department.
- Blake, J. (2000, May). Spontaneous vs. standardized measures of morphology and syntax in SLI children. Paper presented at the annual in-house conference of the York University Psychology Department.
- Blake, J., Osborne, P., & Borzellino, G. (1994, April). Babbling at 9 months and its relation to maternal responsivity, maternal education, infant MDI, sex, birth order, and later vocabulary. Paper presented at the Third Annual Convention of the York University Psychology Department.
- Borzellino, G., & Blake, J. (1993, April). Verbal and nonverbal responsivity to infants' vocalizations and gestures among Italian-Canadian mother-infant dyads. Paper presented at the Second Annual Convention of the York University Psychology Department.
- Theodor, L., Blake, J., & Vingilis, E. (1975, November). Signal detection measures of young children's performance. Paper presented at the Meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Denver, Colorado.

Carey, P. W., & Blake, J. (1970, June). The relevance of verbal coding for immediate memory.  
Paper presented by the second author at meeting of the Alexander Graham Bell Convention  
for Teachers of the Deaf, Philadelphia

**Invited Workshop**

Blake, J. (2004, March). Gestures in human infants during the transition to language and  
comparison with ape gestures. Max Plank Institute, Leipzig.



## Research Support

National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada		
“The development of visual information processing”	1972-75	\$12000
“Perceptual and memory factors in language development”	1975-78	\$12236
“The effects of visual masking on young children’s performance”	1980-81	\$5000
President’s NSERC Grant		
“The effects of visual masking on young children’s performance”	1980	\$1000
Fellowship from la Fondation Fyssen, Paris. Project entitled		
“A comparison of prelinguistic vocalizations in French and English-Canadian infants”	1984-85	
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council		
“Mother-infant interaction and its relation to infant babbling and and later language” – A list	1990	
“The relation of maternal responsivity and style of object play to language acquisition in two cultural groups” – A list	1992	
<u>Small grants program</u>		
“Mother-infant interaction in Italian-Canadian families: The relation of maternal responsivity to infant vocalization and nonverbal communication”	1991	\$3000
“Mother-infant interaction in Italian-Canadian families and its relation to infant vocabulary development at 15 months”	1992	\$1464
<u>Travel grants</u>		
To Meeting of International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development, Jyväskylä, Finland	1989	\$900
To the Vth European Conference on Developmental Psychology, Seville	1992	\$1200
To Meeting of International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development, Beijing	2000	\$1500
To Meeting of International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development, Ghent, Belgium	2004	\$850
To International Conference on Infant Studies, Kyoto, Japan	2006	\$1125
The Elia Research Fund		
“Mother-infant interaction in Italian-Canadian families”	1991	\$1600
Faculty of Arts, York University		
“The development of visual information processing”	1972	\$750
“Is there a semantic system in babbling?”	1978	\$675
“Memory capacity and language complexity”	1983	\$1250
“Relations between cognitive and communicative abilities in infancy”	1984	\$2000

“A cross-linguistic study of sound-meaning correspondence in babbling” Supplement	1986	\$1800
“Evaluation of measures of grammatical complexity”	1987	\$1200
“Mother-infant interaction and infant prelinguistic development”	1989	\$2920
“Mother-infant interaction and language development at 3 years”	1991	\$3000
Supplement	1993	\$1785
“Nonverbal communication in language-impaired children”	1995	\$1500
“Book reading and early vocabulary development”	1996	\$2000
	2000	\$3995

### **Contributions to the Profession**

Editorial Board, *Child Development*, Journal of the Society for Research in Child Development, 1981-87.

Program Committee for the International Conference on Infant Studies held in Toronto in April, 2002.

Manuscript reviewing for *Journal of Child Language*, *First Language*, *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, *Science*, *Trends in Cognitive Science*, *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, *The Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*.

Grant proposal reviews for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council

Member of the Society for Research in Child Development, and the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development.