

Emma James

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Last updated: March 2021

Qualifications

- 2015 – 2019 **PhD Psychology**, University of York
Understanding individual differences in learning and consolidating new vocabulary. Supervisors: Dr Lisa Henderson, Prof. Gareth Gaskell
- 2014 – 2015 **MSc Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience**, University of York
- 2010 – 2013 **BA (Hons) Experimental Psychology**, University of Oxford

Research Positions

- 2020 – Present **Research Associate**, Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford
Principal Investigator: Prof. Kate Nation
- 2019 – 2020 **Research Fellow**, Department of Psychology, University of York
Mentor: Prof. Asifa Majid
- 2019 Feb–Sept **Research Associate**, Department of Psychology, University of York
Principal Investigator: Dr Aidan Horner
- 2017 Oct–Dec **Visiting Scholar**, Haskins Laboratories, USA
Host: Prof. Kenneth Pugh
- 2013 – 2014 **Research Associate**, Department of Psychology, Lancaster University
Principal Investigators: Prof. Kate Cain, Prof. Xiuli Tong

Awards and Prizes

- 2020 **9th Frith Prize Lecturer**, Experimental Psychology Society (£500)
Sole recipient of early career award recognising exceptional PhD work.
- 2018 **Pre-Registration Challenge Prize**, Center for Open Science (\$1000)
Awarded for successful pre-registration of methods in published research.
- 2017 **Poster Prize**, British Psychological Society Developmental Section
Second place prize awarded for conference poster presentation.
- 2015 **MSc Project Prize**, University of York
Awarded for the best empirical project in Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience.

Grants and Fellowships

–Major Grants

- 2020 – 2022 **ESRC Secondary Data Analysis Initiative** (£293,401; Nation, K., James, E., Thompson, P., & Bowes, L.; University of Oxford) *Taking the long view: understanding the precursors and consequences of poor reading comprehension identified in mid-childhood.*
- 2019 – 2020 **ESRC Postdoctoral Fellowship** (£123,568) *Studies great and small: convergent approaches to understanding language learning.*
- 2014 – 2018 **ESRC 1+3 Research Studentship** (£78,190) *Understanding individual differences in learning and consolidating new vocabulary.*

–Small Grants

- **Experimental Psychology Society Workshop Grant** (2018): *Mapping the future for poor comprehender research: taking stock and moving forward*. Co-Applicant with J. Ricketts (Royal Holloway), D. Colenbrander (University of Bristol), L. Henderson (University of York), & H. Joseph (University of Reading).
- **ESRC Researcher Training Support Grant Top-Ups** (2016, 2018) to support summer school attendance.
- **Experimental Psychology Society Grindley Grants** (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020) for conference attendance.
- **ESRC Overseas Institutional Visit Grant** (2017) to visit Haskins Laboratories.
- **Guarantors of Brain Travel Award** (2017) to support conference attendance.

Publications

- James E.**, Gaskell, M.G., Pearce, R., Korell, C., Dean, C., & Henderson, L.M. (under review). The role of prior lexical knowledge in children's and adults' word learning from stories. *Preprint*: <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/vm5ad>.
- James, E.**, Ong, G., Henderson, L.M., & Horner, A.J. (2021). The formation and retrieval of holistic event memories across development. *Journal of Cognition*. <https://doi.org/10.5334/joc.149>
- James, E.**, Ong, G., Henderson, L.M., & Horner, A.J. (2020). Make or break it: Boundary conditions for integrating multiple elements in episodic memory. *Royal Society Open Science*, 7, 200431 <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.200431>
- James, E.**, Koutraki, Y.G., & Tickle, H. (2020). Sleep-associated consolidation in app-based language learning. *Proceedings of the 42nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*, 1178-1184.
- James, E.**, Currie, N., Tong, X., & Cain, K. (2020). The relations between morphological awareness and reading comprehension in beginner readers through to young adolescents. *Journal of Research in Reading*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-9817.12316>
- James, E.**, Gaskell, M.G., & Henderson, L.M. (2020). Sleep-dependent consolidation in children with comprehension and vocabulary weaknesses: It'll be alright on the night? *Journal of Child Psychology & Psychiatry*, 61, 1104-1115. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jcpp.13253>
- James, E.**, Joehner, A-K., & Muehlroth, B.E. (2020). From ZZZs to AAAs: Why sleep is an important part of your study schedule. *Frontiers Young Minds*, 8, 51. <https://doi.org/10.3389/frym.2020.00051>
- James, E.**, Gaskell, M.G., & Henderson, L.M. (2019). Offline consolidation supersedes prior knowledge benefits in children's (but not adults') word learning. *Developmental Science*, e12776. <https://doi.org/10.1111/desc.12776>
- Henderson, L.M., & **James, E.** (2018). Consolidating new words from repetitive versus multiple stories: Prior knowledge matters. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 166, 465-484. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jecp.2017.09.017>
- James, E.**, Gaskell, M.G., Weighall, A., & Henderson, L.M. (2017). Consolidation of vocabulary during sleep: the rich get richer? *Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews*, 77, 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neubiorev.2017.01.054>
- James, E.**, & Cairney, S.A. (2017). Commentary: Knowledge Acquisition during Exam Preparation Improves Memory and Modulates Memory Formation. *Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience*, 10, 245. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fnbeh.2016.00245>

Invited talks

- James E.** (2021, January). *Word learning through the lens of prior knowledge*. Ninth Frith Prize Lecture at the Experimental Psychology Society meeting, online. [[link](#)]
- James, E.** (2020, November). *It'll be alright on the night? Exploring bedtime benefits for learning new vocabulary*. Talk for the Language & Cognition Seminar series, University College London, online.
- James, E.** (2020, September). *Accessing prior lexical knowledge in explicit and incidental word learning*. Guest speaker at the Language, Learning, & Cognition Lab meeting, Royal Holloway, online.
- James, E.** (2020, August). *Learn, Sleep, Recall, Repeat: the importance of sleep for language learning*. Talk for the MemTalks series at Memrise, online.
- James, E.** (2020, July). *A (half) marathon, not a sprint: Preparing to conduct multi-session memory studies online*. Talk at the 2020 BeOnline meeting, online. [[link](#)]
- James, E.** (2020, June). *Open research means open conversation*. Talk at the University of York Open Research Launch Event, online. [[link](#)]
- James, E.** (2018, February). *The rich get richer? Examining influences of existing knowledge on learning new words*. Guest speaker at the Language and Reading Acquisition Lab meeting, Royal Holloway, London, UK.

Conference Presentations (peer-reviewed, presenting author only)

- James, E.,** Gaskell, M.G., & Henderson, L.M. (2020, October). *The changing contributions of prior knowledge and offline processes to vocabulary learning across development*. Poster presented at the Many Paths to Language workshop, hosted online by the Max Planck Institute, Nijmegen, The Netherlands.
- James, E.,** Koutraki, Y.G., & Tickle, H. (2020, July). *Sleep-associated consolidation in app-based language learning*. Poster presented at the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, virtual meeting.
- James, E.,** Gaskell, M.G., & Henderson, L.M. (2020, July). *The role of prior knowledge in sleep-associated consolidation of new vocabulary: insights from good and poor comprehenders*. Poster accepted for the 15th International Congress of the Association for the Study of Child Language, Philadelphia, USA (meeting cancelled due to COVID-19).
- James, E.,** Gaskell, M.G., & Henderson, L.M. (2020, April). *Accessing prior linguistic knowledge when learning new words from spoken stories*. Poster accepted for the Experimental Psychology Society Meeting, Beijing, China (meeting cancelled due to COVID-19).
- James, E.,** Gaskell, M.G., & Henderson, L.M. (2019, July). *Consolidation of new vocabulary in good and poor comprehenders*. Poster presented at the Experimental Psychology Society Meeting, Bournemouth, UK.
- James, E.,** Gaskell, M.G., & Henderson, L.M. (2018, August). *Word learning and consolidation in poor comprehenders*. Paper presented at the 8th International Summer School on Literacy Research, Egmond aan Zee, The Netherlands.
- James, E.,** Gaskell, M.G., & Henderson, L.M. (2018, June). *The role of prior knowledge in vocabulary consolidation*. Paper presented at Child Language Symposium, Reading, UK.
- James, E.,** Gaskell, M.G., & Henderson, L.M. (2017, November). *Prior knowledge influences in learning and consolidating new words*. Poster presented at the Society for Ninth Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language, Baltimore, USA.

Conference Presentations continued

- James, E.,** Gaskell, M.G., & Henderson, L.M. (2017, September). *The rich get richer? The role of existing knowledge in learning new words.* Paper presented at BPS Developmental Section Annual Conference, Stratford-Upon-Avon, UK.
- James, E.,** Gaskell, M.G., & Henderson, L.M. (2017, September). *How can a chicken sleep upside down? The influence of prior knowledge in learning novel concepts.* Poster presented at BPS Developmental Section Annual Conference, Stratford-Upon-Avon, UK.
- James, E.,** Gaskell, M.G., & Henderson, L.M. (2017, July). *Matthew effects in word learning: does prior knowledge aid consolidation?* Paper presented at the Experimental Psychology Society Meeting, Reading, UK.
- Cain, K., **James, E.,** & Currie, N. (2016, September). *The role of morphological awareness in young adolescents' reading: a comparison of relations with word reading and reading comprehension.* Paper presented at the BPS Developmental Section Annual Conference, Belfast, UK.
- James, E.,** Henderson, L.M., Gaskell, M.G. (2016, July). *Consolidating new semantic information during word learning: does prior knowledge help?* Poster presented at the 6th International Conference on Memory, Budapest, Hungary.
- James, E.,** & Cain, K. (2014, September). *Morphological awareness in poor comprehenders: clues to the source of the difficulties.* Paper presented at the 31st BPS Cognitive Psychology Section Conference, Nottingham, UK.
- James, E.,** & Cain, K. (2014, July). *Morphological awareness in poor comprehenders: clues to the source of their difficulties.* Paper presented at the 5th UK Cognitive Linguistics Conference, Lancaster, UK.
- Katuszka, V., & **James, E.** (2012, November). *Is there another 'P' to consider in relation to longitudinal birth cohort studies? Reflections on participant involvement in Children of the 90s.* Paper presented at the National Institute for Health Research INVOLVE Conference, Nottingham, UK.

Teaching

–Employment

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| 2018 | Statistics Workshop Presenter, Maths Skills Centre, University of York
Taught introductory statistics workshops for postgraduate students across disciplines |
| 2017 – 2018 | Statistics Tutor, Maths Skills Centre, University of York
Held drop-in advice sessions for undergraduate and taught postgraduate students |
| 2016 – 2018 | Academic Skills Workshop Presenter, Learning Enhancement, University of York
Taught academic skills workshops to pre-university students |
| 2015 – 2018 | Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Psychology, University of York
Including Advanced Research Methods support; Development & Language tutorials |

–Coding support

- **Certified Instructor, The Carpentries.** Trained to teach programming workshops via live coding, with expertise in R.
- **Lead Instructor, Introduction to R and Mixed Effects Models.** Two-day workshop organised for York St. John University Psychology Department (July 2020).
- **Online resource: From Gorilla to Tidy Data.** Online tutorial for extracting and cleaning data files in R. <https://emljames.github.io/GorillaR/>

–Supervision

- 2020: Co-supervised 2 MSc Project Students with L. Henderson.
- 2018: Co-supervised 3 MSc Project Students with G. Gaskell.
- 2017: Co-supervised 2 MSc Project Students with L. Henderson.
- 2016: Co-supervised 2 MSc Project Students with L. Henderson.

Service

- 2019 – 2020 **ReproducibiliTea Co-Organiser**, Department of Psychology, University of York
Established and co-organised a fortnightly journal club to discuss issues of open research.
- 2015 – 2020 **ECR Forum Committee Member**, Department of Psychology, University of York
Organised academic training and social events for ECRs.
- 2018 **Workshop Organiser**, Experimental Psychology Society sponsored workshop
Co-organised and hosted workshop on poor comprehender research, attended by international academics and practitioners.
- 2015 – 2018 **Sixth Form Conference Organiser**, Department of Psychology, University of York
Established an annual conference day for pre-university students to experience psychology research; organised for four years before securing its continuation.
- 2015 – 2018 **Developmental Group Organiser**, Department of Psychology, University of York
Co-organised monthly seminars for researchers in developmental psychology.

Outreach and Engagement

- 2013 – Present **STEM Ambassador**, STEMnet
Science outreach ambassador for schools.
- 2020 **I'm a Scientist – Stay at Home edition**
Engaged in live web chats with school students; received a *Scientist of the Week* award.
- 2019 **Scientific expert for popular science documentary**, Boundless Productions
The Chasers Road Trip: Trains, Brains & Automobiles; broadcast ITV Jan 2021.
- 2019, 2018 **Sleep Workshop**, York International-State School Partnership Summer School
Organised half-day workshop on sleep and memory for 11- to 13-year-olds.
- 2018 **Pint of Science Speaker**
Public talk: *From zzzs to AAAs: the importance of sleep in childhood learning*
- 2016 **Pint of Science Organiser**
Co-organised three nights of public science talks.
- 2012 **British Science Festival Volunteer**, British Science Association
Co-organised a daily highlights show during the festival.
- 2011 **Publishing Intern**, Wellcome Trust
Wrote blog posts and featured articles for Wellcome Trust publications.