

Speakaboo, COMBI and the Virtual Language App

Projects of the Mercator European Research Centre on
Multilingualism and Language Learning

Jelske Dijkstra & Cor van der Meer

Mercator European Research Centre

- Information and Research Centre
- Fields of research:
 - Teaching in Diversity
 - Open Educational Resources (OER)
 - New technologies; E-learning & Social media
 - Migration and the position of Minorities
 - Language Learning



Mercator's activities

- Research
- Publications & databases
- Network of Schools
- Newsletters
- Projects
- Conferences & seminars
- Advisory role



Speakaboo






Speakaboo

- Speakaboo: multilingual app, developed by Kentalis & ShoSho
- Used by speech and language therapists (SLTs) to assess multilingual children between 2;6-6 yrs old in their phonological development
- Multilingual children need to be assessed in ALL their languages (Genesee, Paradis & Crago, 2004)
- Assess home language even if SLT does not speak that language
- More information: <http://www.speakaboo.io>



Scoring


< terug

 mail (beta)


speak · a · boo

Nynke | Fries


01 - aap ✓	02 - pop ✓
03 - hok ✓	04 - koe ✓
05 - tas ✓	06 - sok ✓
07 - vlieg ✓	08 - jas ✓
09 - hond ✓	10 - voet ✓
11 - boom ✓	12 - oog ✓
13 - boek ✓	14 - mes ✓
15 - neus ✓	16 - wip ✓
17 - vaas ✓	18 - rok ✓
19 - geit ✓	20 - laars ✓



ko:

 kind

✓ goed

 tolk

✗ fout



Frisian language in the Netherlands

- Minority language spoken in province of Fryslân
- West-Germanic language
- Fryslân
 - 650,000 inhabitants
 - 48% inhabitants between 18-49 yrs old speak Frisian to children (Provinsje Fryslân, 2015)
 - All Frisians are bilingual (Dutch-Frisian)
 - Dutch main language used in education





Frisian version

- Pilot:
 - 40 items
 - Consonants: initial, final
 - Consonant clusters
 - Some diphthongs
 - 2x 14 children
- Final version
 - 36 items
 - Large-scale study amongst 320 children in Fryslân



Current languages Speakaboo

- Arabic (Egyptian/Moroccan/Syrian)
- Armenian (Eastern/Western)
- Bosnian
- Dutch
- English (US)
- French
- German
- Hindi
- Italian
- Papiamentu
- Polish
- Russian
- Tarifit-Berber
- Tigrinya
- Turkish
- Somali
- Swahili

New languages: Frisian, ...?

Your (minority) language added to Speakaboo? Contact jdijkstra@fryske-akademy.nl