

- [Home](#)
- [Top News](#)
- [Entertainment](#)
- [Odd News](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Science](#)
 - [Resource Wars](#)
- [Health](#)
- [Real Estate](#)
- [Photos](#)
- [Analysis](#)
- [Deals](#)

Flash Feedback Give us feedback and we'll donate to the **American Cancer Society**



Save 15% on Giant Dipped Berries
With min purchase of \$29

[Share Page](#)

[Recommended](#)

[Fan Page](#)

[Twitter](#)

You are here: [Home](#) / [Science News](#) / [Language, number concepts seen as linked](#)

Science News

[View archive](#) | [RSS Feed](#)
[Receive Free UPI Newsletter](#)

Language, number concepts seen as linked

[Print](#)

Published: Feb. 9, 2011 at 6:16 PM

[Article](#)
[Listen](#)
[Comments \(0\)](#)

CHICAGO, Feb. 9 (UPI) -- Research with deaf people in Nicaragua suggests language plays an important role in the brain's ability to learn the concept of numbers, U.S. scientists say.

Researchers from the University of Chicago found that deaf people in that country who had not learned formal sign language do not have a complete understanding of numbers greater than three, a National Science Foundation release reported Monday.

Not having been taught numbers or number words through formal education and exposure to formal sign language, the people in the study had learned to communicate using self-developed gestures called "homesigns," the researchers said.

While the homesigners had gestures for number, those gestures were accurately used for only small numbers, numbers less than three, and not for large ones, Chicago psychologist Susan Goldin-Meadow found.

Deaf people who acquire conventional sign languages, on the other hand, learn the values of large numbers because they learn a counting routine early in childhood, just as children who acquire spoken languages do.

"It's not just the vocabulary words that matter, but understanding the relationships that underlie the words -- the fact that 'eight' is one more than 'seven' and one less than 'nine,'" Goldin-Meadow said. "Without having a set of number words to guide them, the deaf homesigners in the study failed to understand that numbers build on each other in value."

[Email](#)
[Like](#)
2

[Online Flashcards](#)
 Create, Study & Print Your Own Free Flashcards. Sign Up Now!
[StudyBlue.com](#)

[The SCOOTER Store](#)
 Interested in a Mobility Scooter For Yourself or a Loved One?
[theSCOOTERstore.com](#)

[Sign Language Interpreter](#)
 Find Top Human Services Programs To Earn A Degree On Your Own Time.
[www.Degrees-HumanServices.com](#)

Ads by Google

© 2011 United Press International, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Any reproduction, republication, redistribution and/or modification of any UPI content is expressly prohibited without UPI's prior written consent.

[Order reprints](#)

[vote now](#)
[Like](#)
[Comments](#)

Next Story: Study: Brief breaks improve performance
 or [see all Science News stories](#)

Join the conversation

[Login](#) [Register](#)

Enter comment here

leave comment via



Guest

or

Flash Feedback Give us feedback and we'll donate to the **American Cancer Society**

[Submit Comment](#)

Featured Galleries

Chicago Auto Show



China celebrates the Spring Festival



Archeological Excavations in Israel



Ten newborn baby animals



Most Popular

1. Oldest beer may surrender its recipe
2. Invasive species weathered Florida freeze
3. Car-size asteroid nears Earth Wednesday
4. WikiLeaks: Saudi oil reserves overstated
5. Scientist gives human extinction warning

[Stories](#)
[Photos](#)
[People](#)
[Comments](#)



Save 15% on Giant Dipped Berries
 With min purchase of \$29

[Share Page](#)
[Recommended](#)
[Fan Page](#)
[Twitter](#)



E-Cigarette: Exposed!

The electronic cigarette craze has been sweeping the country. Is it truly as good as people claim?



LEAKED: \$9 Car Insurance

Illinois: Auto insurance companies are upset that \$9 car insurance is now available to the public!



E-Cigarette: Exposed

The electronic cigarette craze has been sweeping the nation. Is it truly as good as people claim?



E-Cigarettes Exposed!

This in-depth report exposes the real health effects of smoking e-cigarettes

[Buy a link here](#)

[Official Government Wires](#) | [About UPI](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Terms of Use](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Advertise Online](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [UPI Mailing Address](#)
[Top News](#) | [Entertainment News](#) | [Odd News](#) | [Business news](#) | [Sports News](#) | [Science News](#) | [Health News](#) | [Real Estate News](#) | [News Photos](#) | [Archive](#) | [Job News](#) | [World News](#) | [Local News](#) | [U.S News](#) | [Special Reports](#)

© 2011 United Press International, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Welcome to UPI.com! Your trusted source for world news, top news, science news, health news and current events.

We thank you for visiting us and we hope that we will be your daily stop for news updates.

News Photos - Slideshows

[Photos of the Day](#) | [Week in Photos](#) | [News](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Sports](#) | [Features](#) | [Archives](#)

2010: Year in Review



Egyptian protesters continue their



Assange fights extradition



Obama addresses the Chamber of



13th day of protests in Egypt



Protests continue in Cairo's Tahrir Square



Palin celebrates Reagan's birthday



Departure Day protests in Egypt



Anti-Mubarak demonstration in



President Obama attends National



Egyptians protest against Mubarak



Student protests continue in London



Obama tours Wisconsin factories

Additional News Stories

Top News



Trump says United States is disrespected

ATLANTA, Feb. 10 (UPI) -- Billionaire Donald Trump says

the United States is a "laughingstock" and that he would make an announcement by June that "may surprise people."

Another winter storm sweeps across South
3 dead, 2 missing in row house gas blast
Woman claims innocence in spouse poisoning
Thailand, Cambodia assert positions

Entertainment News



'Yellow' tops the U.S. record chart

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 10 (UPI) -- Wiz Khalifa's Pittsburgh Steelers anthem "Black and Yellow" is No. 1 on the U.S. record chart,

Billboard.com reported Thursday.

UPI NewsTrack Entertainment News

Science News



WikiLeaks: Saudi oil reserves overstated

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia, Feb. 10 (UPI) --

Estimates of oil reserves in Saudi Arabia are overstated, meaning crude output could peak within the next decade, leaked U.S. diplomatic cables reveal.

Asteroid's near hit changes its orbit
New oil find off Ghana's coast
Scorn erupts over French wind farm plans
Iraqi oil security police graduate

Local News

McConnell Promises to Continue Attacking Health Care Bill
Media Preview Day: Monticello Reserve Ale H Street, NE Scuttlebutt High End Indian Restaurant Coming to Old Naby's Space
Patch Picks: Valentines Day Date Options
Club's Renovation Plan Includes Tearing Down 1890s House

Flash Feedback Give us feedback and we'll donate to the **American Cancer Society**



Save 15% on Giant Dipped Berries
With min purchase of \$29

[Share Page](#) [Recommended](#) [Fan Page](#) [Twitter](#)

Get Your **FREE** Credit Score  Straight from The Source 
[CONTINUE](#)  TransUnion.

Sponsored Links: [Auto Dealers](#) - [Celebrity Keynote Speakers Bureau](#)

Flash Feedback Give us feedback and we'll donate to the **American Cancer Society**



Save 15% on Giant Dipped Berries
With min purchase of \$29

Share Page

 Recommended

 Fan Page

 Twitter