INFANT LEARNING PROJECT

Developments

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Current News:

Graduation Announcement

The Infant Learning Project would like to congratulate

Kristin Atchison receiving her Ph.D. in Psychological Sciences. Kristin has been



working in our lab for 5 years. We are very proud of her accomplishments and thank her for an outstanding job in the lab.

New Research Studies

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Our lab has recently started two new studies for 6-monthold infants:

Other-Race Training Study:

This study is looking at the way infants tell the difference between faces of another race than their own. Research has shown that at 6 months of age. infants are able to tell the difference between faces from a different race than their own, but they are less skilled at this task by 9 months of age. Our study will attempt to help babies retain the ability to tell the difference between otherrace faces by training them at home with a picture book of other-race faces for 3 months. The 6-month-olds will come back to the lab after 3 months of training, and we'll test whether the training was successful in retaining the ability to tell other-race faces apart. If you are interested in participating in this study with

your 5- or 6-month-old, please contact us today! Eye-Tracking of ID Faces:

We are very excited to begin using new technology in our lab — the Tobii Eye-Tracker (www.tobii.com). In the Infant-Directed Faces study, we are learning how babies look at faces of women who are speaking infant-directed speech. Infants will sit on their parents' lap and watch videos of the faces on the eye-tracker monitor. The eye -tracker will record where on the screen the infants' eyes are looking. The computer will then calculate how often each baby looked at different parts of the face, such as the eyes or mouth. Contact us today If you are interested in participating in this study!

Current Projects:

- Face **Discrimination** Study: 3-4 and 8 months
- Other-Race **Training Study:** 6 and 9 months
- ID Speech and Faces: 4 and 6 months
- Facial Expression Study: 6 and 10 months

Raising Healthy Infants: Language and Learning

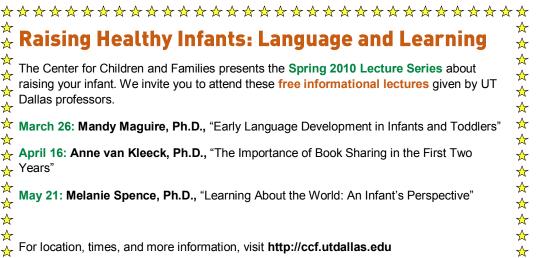
The Center for Children and Families presents the Spring 2010 Lecture Series about raising your infant. We invite you to attend these free informational lectures given by UT Dallas professors.

March 26: Mandy Maguire, Ph.D., "Early Language Development in Infants and Toddlers" ☆

April 16: Anne van Kleeck, Ph.D., "The Importance of Book Sharing in the First Two Years" $\stackrel{\wedge}{\Rightarrow}$

May 21: Melanie Spence, Ph.D., "Learning About the World: An Infant's Perspective"

For location, times, and more information, visit http://ccf.utdallas.edu



Infant Learning Project



Helpful Websites:

www.healthychildren.org: The new parenting site from the American Academy of Pediatrics website offers up-to-date information about your child's health.

www.aap.org: The American Academy of Pediatrics website.

<u>www.pbs.org/parents</u>: The PBSParents website offers a Child Development Tracker, a Bookfinder, and more!

Other Research Opportunities:

Parents play an important role in the development of healthy eating habits. Researchers at the **Healthy Development Project** are hoping to learn more about how parents feed young children, but need your help!

The Healthy Development Project is currently recruiting for an exciting study and is looking for parents with children between the ages of 12- to 24-months-old. If you are interested in participating, please call the **Healthy Development Project** at 972-883-6073 or send an e-mail to ead062000@utdallas.edu to learn more about the study or to schedule an appointment. To learn more about this project, visit:

http://bbs.utdallas.edu/healthydevelopmentproject

Conference Updates:

CDS Conference 2009

In October, we attended the Cognitive Development Society's biennial meeting in San Antonio, where Dr. Melanie Spence, Kristin Atchison, and Kate Shepard presented findings on 6-month-olds' categorization of infant-directed speech. From this research, we have learned that faces and voices play important roles in

infants' early communicative development.



ICIS Conference 2010

We look forward to attending the International Conference on Infant Studies in Baltimore in March 2010. More information to follow in our next newsletter!

Our Lab Students: Spring 2010

We have a great group of students working in the lab this semester.

- Lindsey Collins
- Rachel Beaulieu
- Lisa Keylon
- Madeline Consor, B.S.
- Kaia Wakamiya, B.S.
- Kate Shepard, M.S., CCC-SLP

We are happy to welcome Kaia Wakamiya to the lab. Kaia is currently working on her Master's degree in Human Development and Early Childhood Disorders. We know Kaia will be a great addition to our lab.

Thank You

We thank our families for your participation. Without your support, our research would not be possible!

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