



Dear Resident,

The NTID PLAY Lab, directed by Dr. Rain Bosworth, at Rochester Institute of Technology aims to study cognitive development in deaf and hearing children. We have important studies funded by the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID), the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the James S. McDonnell Foundation (JSMF) that you may be interested in participating in with your child. The study information is provided below; if you are interested, you sign up online, and we will contact you if you are eligible. **To view an ASL version of this letter, use the link <http://tinyurl.com/playlabmuseum>.**

One of our studies is for **parents and their 2-to-6 year-old children**. It involves completing online surveys and a half-day visit to the Strong Museum of Play in Rochester, New York. During this visit, we encourage your child to engage with certain exhibits. We use video cameras to record the child's exploratory behaviors during a short 20-minute period. We ask you to come back for 1 or 2 follow-up visits at the NTID PLAY Lab in Rochester. You will also fill out a basic questionnaire about your background.

Parents with children who have bilateral severe-to-profound hearing loss or children with typical hearing between 3 to 6 years are invited to participate. Parents who use American Sign Language with their children are also invited to participate.

The risks involved in this study are similar to that of going out in public.

You will receive compensation for your time (*see back page*). You and your child will likely find the study enjoyable and you may learn something about your child's development. This work may help us understand how deaf and hearing children learn through exploration and play.

Study procedures are approved by the RIT Institutional Review Board (IRB#01050323).

If you are interested in participating in this study, fill out the Study Interest Form at tinyurl.com/playstudies or scan the QR code below. If you need more information, please email playlab@rit.edu or visit ntidplaylab.com.

Thank you for your interest,

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NTID PLAY Lab Museum Study

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is running this study?

The NTID PLAY Lab is running this study in collaboration with the Strong Museum of Play. This study is led by Dr. Rain Bosworth and Dr. Allison Fitch who are faculty members at RIT.

What is the purpose of this study?

This work may help us understand how deaf and hearing children learn through exploration.

Who is eligible to participate in this study?

Parents and their children aged 3 to 6 years who without vulnerable health or compromised cognitive capacity are eligible to participate. Families need to travel to the Strong Museum of Play in Rochester.

What is involved with participating in this study?

First, you fill out the online Study Interest Form at tinyurl.com/playstudies or scan our QR code. If you are eligible, we will contact you and ask you to come to the Strong Museum of Play on a scheduled date that is convenient for you. During the free visit to the museum, we will record your child's behaviors with remote and/or wearable cameras. This should not cause any harm or discomfort. At a later date, we will ask you to come to the NTID PLAY Lab or RIT campus for further cognitive or language testing. Finally, we will also ask you to fill out a questionnaire about the child's background and language use.

How long will participating in the study take?

There are 3 total visits, each should take about 1 to 2 hours, with breaks as needed. During the first museum visit, you can stay and enjoy the museum for as long as you like with your family.

What is the compensation for participation in this study?

Your family's annual Basic membership fee (for 2 adults, 4 children) will be covered and you will receive 50 dollars at the end of the third visit.

Are there any risks involved with participating in this study?

The risks involved in this study are similar to that of going out in public. If there are concerns about COVID-19, research staff are happy to wear masks upon request.

Are there any benefits involved with participating in this study?

There are no direct benefits to you except you and your child might find the study enjoyable, and you may learn something about your child's cognitive development.

What are my rights if I participate in this study?

Being in this study is voluntary. You have the right to quit this study any time. You and your child each have the right to refuse or not answer any questions. You have the right to privacy and confidentiality of the information you give us.

Will my information be confidential?

We protect confidentiality by assigning your child's data with a code, and not using names. We store data securely on password-protected computers. We will do our best to make sure only people connected with the research will see your data. At the end of the study, the summary results of all participants will be shared at conferences and in journal articles. We do not name you or your child when these results are released publicly. We will not share any video recordings of you or your child without your permission. We can also blur faces in videos upon request.