

**Name of Study:** Autism and the Development of Relational Awareness

**Location:** Kennedy Krieger Institute, 3901 Greenspring Ave, Baltimore, MD 21210

**Eligibility Criteria:**

- Children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder between 36-54 months
- Children with Down Syndrome between 36-54 months
- Typically developing children between 11-13 months
- Typically developing children between 26-28 months

**Principal Investigator:** Dr. Rebecca Landa, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

**Contact Information:** Ashley Graham, 1-877-850-3372 (toll-free)

Dear Parent,

I am writing this letter to offer your family an opportunity to participate in a research study at the Center for Autism and Related Disorders at Kennedy Krieger Institute. The study is looking at the development of memory and learning in children. We are recruiting children with Autism Spectrum Disorders or Down Syndrome who are between 36 and 54 months, as well as typically developing children who are between 11 and 13 months or between 26 and 28 months.

The study involves three days of testing. The first day includes parent interviews (between 30 minutes and 2 hours) and can be done over the phone. The second and third days include a visit to our center, where your child will participate in play-based, structured activities (each visit will be about 2.5 hours). For your participation, you will receive a written report of your child's performance on the standardized developmental assessments.

There is no compensation or direct medical benefit to participating. Risks of participation include boredom, fatigue, or frustration; we can take breaks or continue testing on another day. Another risk is discomfort with interview questions; you can choose not to answer any question you're not comfortable with. Because of the time commitment involved, we will be as flexible as possible when scheduling your interviews and visits. We will take all steps to protect your confidentiality.

If you are interested in participating, please contact our research hotline at 1-877-850-3372. This phone number is connected to voicemail that is checked daily by our research staff. Please leave a message stating that you are interested in the "Autism and the Development of Relational Awareness" study, along with your contact information.

Thank you in advance for your time and assistance. We look forward working with you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rebecca Landa, Ph.D., CCC-SLP  
Director  
Center for Autism and Related Disorders  
Kennedy Krieger Institute



**Approved 03/13/2008**

Study Recruitment Letter

04/10/2008

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