

Name of Study: Physiological Responses to Social and Non-social Reward in Autism

Institution: University of Washington

Location: Seattle, WA

Eligibility Criteria: Boys with high functioning Autism or Asperger's Syndrome as well as typically developing boys, ages 8 through 11 years

Principal Investigator: Emily Neuhaus, M.A.

Contact Information: Emily Neuhaus; phone: (206) 616-8647

Dear Parent,

I am writing this letter to offer you and your child an opportunity to participate in a research study at the University of Washington. The study is looking at how children's bodies respond to different types of reward, and how that response might be related to their behavior in social situations. We are recruiting boys with Autism or Asperger's Syndrome and fluent spoken language, as well as typically developing children, between the ages of 8 and 11 years.

Participating in the study involves one or two visits to the University of Washington campus. During the first visit (about 2 hours), children complete a play-based assessment and their parent completes an interview. During the second visit (about 2 hours), children complete a brief cognitive assessment, play a short videogame we created, and work on puzzles with their parent and a research assistant. While they do these activities, they wear 9 adhesive sensors on their hand and upper body to measure heart rate, breathing, and sweat activity. Also during this visit, parents complete an interview and questionnaire about their son's behavior and social skills, and help us create three short video clips of themselves that their child sees as part of the videogame.

Families who complete the study receive \$40, and reimbursement for parking on campus. Children have the opportunity to earn around \$5 during the videogame. There is no charge to participate in the study.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Emily Neuhaus at (206) 616-8647. Thank you in advance for your time and assistance. We look forward to the chance to meet you and your son!

Sincerely,

Emily Neuhaus, M.A.

Doctoral Candidate

Department of Psychology

University of Washington

IAN Research ID SR00332