

Name of Study: Web-Based Social Skills Intervention for School-Aged Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Institution: University of California, Los Angeles/Florida State University/Kennedy Krieger Institute

Location: Online study; no geographic limitation within the United States

Eligibility Criteria: Children diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder, ages 8-12 years (grades 3-5), who (i) can read at a third-grade level or above, (ii) have basic computer skills, and (iii) pass an online screening test

Principal Investigator: Dr. Connie Kasari (UCLA), Dr. Rebecca Landa (KKI), and Dr. Amy Wetherby (FSU)

Contact Information: Fred Frankel, Project Coordinator; phone: (310) 825-0776 or email: ffrankel@mednet.ucla.edu

Dear Parent,

Many children on the autism spectrum experience social difficulties at school and in the community. We are testing a new internet-based social skills program to see how it affects children's social behavior and also to see if we can use the internet to deliver interventions to children with ASD. This information will benefit families, schools and clinical professionals.

The program includes a series of fun and interactive computer activities that the child will navigate through independently. Children will take part in two 30-60 minute online sessions per week for 8 weeks.

Once children are enrolled in the study, they will be randomly assigned to two groups: one will be asked to begin the intervention immediately and the other will be instructed to begin the intervention after an eight week waiting period. Regardless of which group children are in, parents, children and teachers involved will complete online questionnaires at enrollment, eight weeks after enrollment, and sixteen weeks after enrollment. (Children will complete online questionnaires that ask about their social experiences and feelings; parents will complete a brief demographic survey and a number of online questionnaires about their child's behavior; and the child's classroom teacher will be asked about the child's behavior).

If you are interested in joining this study, please contact Fred Frankel, Project Coordinator at (310) 825-0776 or ffrankel@mednet.ucla.edu.

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

Sincerely,

Dr. Connie Kasari (UCLA)

Dr. Rebecca Landa (KKI)

Dr. Amy Wetherby (FSU)

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