

Dear Parent,

You and your 2 to 4 year-old child with autism are being invited to participate in a new research study at the University of Vermont. We are interested in learning more about children with autism's reactions to potentially frustrating situations. We are also interested in identifying how parents foster the development of a child's response to such situations.

In this study, children will take part in two activities. One will involve seeing how different children respond to a request that the child wait for something they would like to have (e.g., a present or something to eat). The second activity is a developmental assessment of your child, using a series of play tasks. Both you and your child will be videotaped during these tasks. The visit would take place in our playroom at the University of Vermont. We will also ask you to complete three questionnaires: two about your child's social competence and behavioral challenges, and the third includes background information about you, your child, and your child's father, as well as to answer questions regarding your child's health and childcare setting.

You will be present during the tasks with your child. At some point in the activities, we want to see how your child does on his/her own without your direct help, but you will be present in the room.

The playroom visit will take between an hour to an hour and a half, and the questionnaire packet will take about 45 minutes and can be filled out at home. In addition, parking permits will be provided for your visit to the Department of Psychology. You will receive \$25 cash in appreciation for your time.

If you would like to participate in the study or learn more about it before you decide, please contact: Kristin Mount
(802) 999-3902
kmount@uvm.edu

Thank you for considering participating in this new study of young children with autism. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Patricia Prelock
Department of Communication Sciences

Dr. Susan Crockenberg
Department of Psychology