





# LABORATORY

SUMMER NEWSLETTER



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## Hot off the press

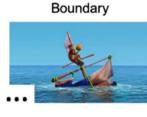
Our lab members have been working extremely hard and we wanted to take a moment to celebrate their new publications or mentions in the press

Dr. Hirsh-Pasek and graduate student Elias Blinkoff discussed the use of ChatGPT and its potential to foster creativity in the next generation.<sup>1</sup>

A new white paper from the LEGO Foundation and research scientist Charlotte Wright and Dr. Hirsh-Pasek has been released all about Joyful Parenting!<sup>2</sup>

Post-docs Dr. Annelise Pesch and Dr. Katelyn Fletcher authored a new paper discussing community co-design and its importance for the Playful Learning movement.

Susan Benear published her doctoral dissertation, with Dr. Newcombe, exploring how 4 to 7 year old children perceive and remember stories and events. Older children divide up cartoons into events more like adults do, following a story script, and remember better. Interestingly, the younger children agreed on some divisions than older children don't use, and their brain scans showed that those segmentations structured their perceptions.<sup>4</sup>







Within

Within

scene continues



scene continues Boundary



Boundary





Within

Within continues

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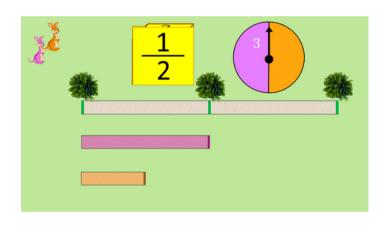
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Working with a group at the U of Delaware, Dr. Newcombe published a paper showing that many children show some knowledge of basic fraction concepts at the beginning of first grade. By the end of first grade, they know even more, even though fractions are not in the curriculum. Informal experiences may be key. Next year, we will test some fun activities.<sup>6</sup>



Research scientist Charlotte Wright graduate student Ally Masters, and Dr. Hirsh-Pasek recently had a blog published in BOLD about the importance of incorporating playful learning into everyday life.<sup>5</sup>



Our playful learning work has been featured in a new article from Early Learning Nation. Including comments from Dr. Hirsh-Pasek and post-doc Dr. Katelyn Fletcher, the article discusses the 6 C's philosophy and other key elements of creating a well-rounded Playful Learning Landscape.<sup>7</sup>

### Studies in the Spotlight



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How do children learn to remember, and what does that look like in the developing brain? To find out, we are recruiting 4-7-year olds to follow over a year of their life as they develop and change. For this study, you and your child will make a visit to our lab twice, and then twice again one year later. Your child will watch cartoons, talk about things they've done recently, play memory games, and receive an MRI scan. You and your child will be compensated with a \$50 gift card for each 1.5 – 2 hour session (including breaks and snacks) and your child will also receive toys and a picture of their brain!

Marvelous Moments!

### Curious Kids!

#### Ages: 4-7 years Location: Online (Zoom)

How does curiosity affect memory and learning? We are recruiting typically developing children ages 4-7 fir the Curious Kids Study. Your child will watch several popular cartoon clips and those after stories. You and your child will receive a \$20 Amazon gift card for the completion of the parental forms (25 mins average to fill out) before the Zoom session and one-time Zoom session with your child (40 mins average).





#### Home Sweet Home

How do children apply their learning to new situations? To find out, we're recruiting typically developing children ages 5– 8 for the Home Sweet Home Study. Children will play a fun computer game where they will be asked to learn where different animals live in an imaginary land. You and your child will be compensated with a gift card and your child will get to pick out a toy or sticker!

### Interested in participating?



Fill out this <u>form</u> to receive more information, or email us at kidmemorylab@temple.edu!





### Farewells

We have been lucky enough to work with some amazing students this year! Let's take a minute to celebrate their amazing accomplishments as they move on from us after graduation.

Kara Storjohann recently finished working with Dr. Nora Newcombe to write her senior honors thesis on the relationship between episodic and semantic memory and generalization. She's excited to join Dr. Chris Edgar at CHOP's Lurie Family Foundations MEG Imaging Lab to examine auditory processing in autism.





Sam Keen was an undergraduate research assistant at the TICL lab and graduated from Temple University this spring. Sam's plans to work as a Research Assistant for one to three years postgraduation before moving onto graduate school to achieve his doctorate in Clinical Psychology with a post doctorate of Neuropsychology. Sam is looking forward to using the experience that he has gained in the TICL lab and in other labs he has interned at to benefit his future role and to create a smooth transition from his undergrad to the professional world.



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Linh Nguyen will be taking a gap year after her graduation this spring to work full-time and volunteer at a lab. Following her gap year, Linh plans to apply to postbaccalaureate programs to prepare herself for graduate school.





Olivia Williams worked hard collecting data for the Bright Horizons instillations by working closely with the little kiddos from each of the centers. Olivia will be taking on a full-time role with TICL after graduation and plans to continue her education by going to graduate school for Developmental Psychology in the future!

# What have our Co-Directors been up to?

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- 1. Dr. Newcombe wrote a chapter in the recently published book In Their Own Words: What Scholars and Teachers Want You to Know About Why and How to Apply the Science of Learning in Your Academic Setting. Here is a link to the book - <u>https://teachpsych.org/ebooks/itow</u>. Her chapter is titled: Constructing a Canon for the Science of Learning.
- 2. Dr. Newcombe is a recipient of the 2023 APS Mentor Award, which "recognizes psychology researchers and educators who have shaped the future directions of science by fostering the careers of students and colleagues."
- 3. On May 11th, Dr. Newcombe spoke at the Norman H.Anderson Distinguished Lecture Series. Her talk was titled: "Leveraging Species Comparisons to Understand Human Development"
- 4. Dr. Newcombe was recently named a jury member for the Jacobs Foundation's "Klaus J. Jacob's Research Prize".
- 5. In June, Dr. Newcombe was a keynote speaker at the PuG conference at the University of Tübingen in Germany.
- 1. In February, Dr. Hirsh-Pasek presented a talk on reimagining education from a scientific perspective for the College of Liberal Arts Dean Deeg's Office Hours for Donors at Temple University
- 2. On April 28th, Dr. Hirsh-Pasek received the Association of Children's Museums Great Friend to Kids Award, which recognizes individuals and institutions that have made a national or international impact on the lives of children.
- 3. Dr. Hirsh-Pasek gave a Keynote address at the Association of Children's Museums 'InterActivity 2023: Levering our Voice' conference in New Orleans in April. Approximately 1,000 children's museum professionals from around the world, community leaders, corporate supporters, and funders attended the event.
- 4. Dr.Hirsh-Pasek was asked to join the Board of Directors for the ZERO TO THREE, beginning in June
- 5. Later this month, Dr. Hirsh-Pasek will be presenting at the Learning Science Exchange meeting in Zurich, Switzerland



We want to thank our funders - Stan and Deborah Lefkowitz, the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the William Penn Foundation, the LEGO Foundation, Vanguard, and the Bezos Foundation for making our work possible!



### We hope everyone has a safe and healthy summer!

We look forward to sharing our exciting, upcoming work later this yearr

**Thanks for reading!** 

-Temple Infant & Child Lab-