

Meet the DUCK Lab

- ◆ Directors
 - Dr. Janet Boseovski
 - Dr. Stuart Marcovitch
- ◆ Lab Manager
 - Emilie Peterson
- ◆ Doctoral Candidates
 - Stephanie Miller, M.A.
- ◆ Master's Candidates
 - Jamie Lee Peterson, B.A.
 - Candace Lassiter, B.A.
- ◆ Honors Students
 - Naomi Chatley
 - Heidi Dewitt
- ◆ Undergraduate Research Fellowship Students
 - Allison O'Leary
- ◆ Research Assistants
 - Sabrina Epps
 - Dani Ryan
 - Lilianna Lawson
 - Sarah Wilkinson
 - Cassandra Wright

DUCK Lab Newsletter

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Dear Parents, Preschools, & Schools:

Thank you for your participation in our research over the past year! We have had a very successful year in the DUCK lab working with hundreds of children both in our laboratory and in the community. Your support is an integral part of our work toward better understanding children's social, emotional, and cognitive development.



In the current issue of the newsletter, we will present to you some of the most recent studies we have been working on in the lab. In addition, we would like to introduce you to student researchers and let you know what the DUCK lab alumni are doing.

We also encourage you to check out our website if you are interested in more information. Our updated site has links to our current publications, conference presentations, and lab tasks.

http://www.uncg.edu/~s_marcov/index.html

Thank you again for your support. We look forward to another exciting year!

Where Are They Now?

Congratulations to all of the DUCK lab graduates. We would like to share some of the successes of our alumni.

Christine Eshleman.

Christine is a social worker for Guilford County Schools in North Carolina.

Teresa Howell.

Teresa is a mental health counselor in Ohio.

David Kutas.

David is attending a Master's of Business program at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Suzanne Yingst.

Suzanne is attending a Master's of Accounting program at the University of New Orleans in Louisiana.

Researcher of the Month: Naomi Chatley



What are you working on in the DUCK lab?:

I am completing my Honor's Thesis examining children's memory for actions. Memory for movement is better in young children than memory for spoken word. My project indicates that children are better at organizing remembered items based on similar actions (e.g., all involving a circular motion) compared to similar themes (e.g., all related to birthday parties).

What the best part of working in the DUCK lab?: In addition to being a student, I am also the mother of three girls; Tera (7), Anna (5), and Audrey (3). I like that my children are able to participate in DUCK Lab activities. The lab gives my children not only the opportunity to have fun, but to start learning about science and psychology early in life.

Lab Pet of the Month!



Meet **Yoshi**, one of our favorite pets in the lab. Yoshi enjoys playing at the bark park and chasing her tail! Her favorite food is bacon treats.

Delicious Duckling Treats

★ No-Bake Cookies ★

PREP TIME: 10 minutes

INGREDIENTS: 8 whole-wheat graham cracker squares, finely ground; 1/4 cup raisins; 1/4 cup smooth natural peanut butter; 2 tbsps plus 2 tsps of honey; 4 tsps unsweetened coconut.

- Combine ground whole-wheat graham crackers, raisins, peanut butter, and honey into a small bowl.
- Pat into 8 cookies and press lightly in coconut.

NUTRITION INFORMATION: Per Serving (2 cookies): 313 calories; 13 g fat; 0 mg cholesterol; 46 g carbohydrate; 7 g protein; 4 g fiber; 282 mg sodium; 82 mg potassium.

For this and more kid-friendly, healthy recipes, visit:

http://www.eatingwell.com/recipes/cooking_for_kids/

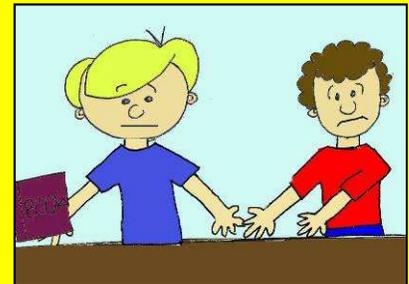


★ Current Lab Task: How do children explain the behavior of others? ★

This task assesses the types of information that 3- to 6-year-olds use to judge the causes of people's behavior. For example, do children understand that a tummy ache can cause someone to behave negatively toward other people? Do they appreciate that our emotions, such as sadness, can affect our interactions with others?

So far, the results of this project indicate that children tend to give people the 'benefit of the doubt' in their judgments. Specifically, when people behave negatively, children do not label them as 'mean' and instead attribute their behavior to other available causes. For example, in the scenario represented by the picture to the right, children mostly attributed the mean act to the situation (being sad) and reported that Mitchell was still a 'nice boy'. We are continuing to study this positivity bias further, as it can affect children in a number of ways in their daily lives (e.g., peer relations; stranger safety).

Approximately 189 children have participated in this task between January and July of 2009.



(Above) Corey cannot find his book, but Mitchell will not help him find it. In this scenario, Mitchell is sad and acts in a mean manner toward Corey.

Thanks!

A Big Thanks goes out to all the child care [centers], schools, and parents who volunteered to participate in this research. Without your help, none of this would be possible!

Participating Daycares: A Child's World, Apple Tree Academies, Apples of His Eye Learning Center, Bright Minds Academy, Canterbury School, Cardinal Childcare and Development, Centenary School, Child Care Network, Childtime Learning Center, Copic Cathedral Daycare, Covenant Christian Day School, College Hill Childcare, Cornerstone Baptist Wee School, Creative World, Excell Christian Academy, Fairfield Enrichment Center, Faith Wesleyan Child Care, First Baptist Preschool, First Lutheran School For Young Children, First Presbyterian Weekday Preschool, Friendly Avenue Christian School, Forsyth Science Center, God's Little Gifts, Greensboro Cultural Center, Greensboro Youth Soccer Association, Guilford Prep Academy, Hayes-Taylor YMCA, Hester's Creative School, Holy Trinity Day School, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Irving Park Preschool, Jo's Home Center, Kids Ahead Afterschool Program, Kids R Kids, La Petite Academy, Little Feet Learning Center, Little Mouse Playhouse, Music Academy of NC, Myra's Learning Kids Academy, Our Children's House, Our Lady of Grace, Partners in Childcare, Pleasant Garden Child Care Center, Proehlfic Park, Ruggles Street Learning Center, Spears Family YMCA, St. Francis Day School, St. Pius X, Starmount Preschool, The Sunshine House, Tabernacle Weekday School, UNCG Child Care Education Program, Wee Care Child Development Center, Weekday Early Education, YMCA High Point, YWCA Greensboro