Thanks again for your dedication to the Back to Baby Basics Project!

Katerina Preschutti

Many of you have talked with Kate over the phone. She has been our senior project manager of the Back to Baby Basics Project since September 2009. Kate graduated from Penn State in 2004, and returned to her Alma Mater after working in New York City and San Diego, CA. She enjoys yoga and playing tennis.

Tina Iannucci

You all probably remember meeting Tina when your infant was 4-months old. Tina is the Research Technologist for the Back to Baby Basics Project. Tina graduated from Penn State in 2009. Most of you will see her when you visit us in the lab.
With summer coming to an end, we at the Back to Baby Basics Project would like to send an update on the status of the project.

Thus far, we have visited over 100 families in their homes at the 4-month visit. At the 6-month lab visit, we have seen 65 families. At the 12-month visit, we have seen 10 families so far. We have 53 families with baby girls and 58 families with baby boys enrolled in our study.

All babies are different and it has been interesting to see how your baby has changed over time.

The B2BB team will work on the collected data and your questionnaires as the study progresses. Thank you for your continued participation, which is incredibly valuable to the study!

For those families whose babies are not yet 12-months old, we would like to tell you a little bit about what to expect during your next visit. All of the activities are the same as the 6-month visit, but now that your baby is more aware of the world, he or she may react quite differently to the same tasks.

During the 12-month visit, Moms and infants will: play with several interesting toys, play peek-a-boo, and have a snack-time. We will also measure your infant’s height and weight as well as your weight.

For those families who have already visited us when their babies were 12-months old, Thank You! We are looking forward to seeing you and your baby again at the 18 month visit.

As parents you are well aware that raising children is a multi-task activity and sometimes it is difficult to juggle all the things that need attention. A paper by one of our former graduate students, Liz Cipriano, was just published in The Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology. The paper reported on a study in our lab that looked at how mothers responded to their 2 year old toddlers who were left to play with a “boring” toy while she filled out questionnaires. The results showed that for exuberant toddlers, those who are outgoing, fearless and impulsive, if mothers used firm commands but in a warm, sensitive way then their child was better at self-regulation two years later. This study is one illustration of the importance of your participation in our research.


We have seen families from all over the area! Families from 12 different Pennsylvania counties have visited us. Thank you to everyone for coming to visit us at Penn State!

8,152 miles traveled!

Tina and Kate have traveled far and wide to visit our families! Thanks Tina and Kate!