**Welcome!**

**Emilie Langlois** is our new staff research assistant. She is a recent graduate of Penn State where she majored in Human Development and Family Studies. Emilie hopes to earn her Ph.D. in clinical psychology. She plans to specialize in developmental disorders. Emilie enjoys riding horses in her spare time.

**Katie Grills** is our newest graduate student. She graduated with a BA in Psychology from Kalamazoo College in Michigan. Before coming to Penn State she worked as a staff research assistant at the University of Michigan. Katie's interests are in parent-infant interaction and self-regulation. In her spare time, she enjoys running, reading and painting.

We also want to welcome a new group of **undergraduate research assistants**. Our lab now includes 20 undergraduate students and 4 graduate students!

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**3 Fun Lab Visits**

THANK YOU for helping B2BBkids continue to learn about child development and your irreplaceable child!

Each family will receive a scheduling call a month before your child turns 4½ and 5½. You and your child will be invited to participate in many fun and interesting activities in the lab!

**TWO 4½-year lab visits**: 85 families (thus far) have completed both

**ONE 5½-year lab visit**: 63 families (thus far) have completed this visit

**First Grade Questionnaires** are currently being developed

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**Contact Info**

If you change your phone number or address, please remember to tell us!

Email: B2BBkids@psu.edu
Phone: (814) 863-3878
Mail:
B2BB Kids
119 Health and Human Dev.
University Park, PA 16802

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**FALL 2015 NEWSLETTER**

We truly appreciate your participation in B2BB Kids!

We look forward to seeing you and your child again soon!
As you observe your children during our lab visits, during trips to new places, or just around the house, you might notice that they are very interested in something or ask a lot of questions. This shows that they are curious.

Curiosity is a characteristic common among young children. It reflects a desire to get questions answered and increase knowledge. Children often feel curious when exposed to things that are new, surprising, or complex; exploration generally follows. Babies explore the world using their 5 senses. Children improve these skills as they grow older, and they also develop new ways of exploring by physically manipulating objects and asking questions.

Different children may feel more or less curious in general. They also might feel curious about different things. Curiosity can lead to children developing specific interests or hobbies. Differences in characteristics like curiosity make each child unique!

- Fall is a great time to encourage outdoor exploration! Trips to nature centers, parks, or even your backyard are great opportunities to foster curiosity about the natural world.
- The children’s nonfiction section of your local library can be a great resource for answering children’s questions. You’ll find many age-appropriate books with pictures and explanations on a variety of interesting topics.

In each newsletter we try to update you on what we are learning from all the visits you participated in for the B2BB research project. Below we present some findings on infants’ responses to new toys and foods. We also list two papers that will be published (you can find pre-published versions online) and presentations of our findings from the B2BB project at national conferences. None of this would be possible without your continued participation and commitment to (y)our project.

Responses to Novel Toys and Foods

- Previous research from our lab revealed that babies develop the tendency to hesitate in response to novel toys during the first year of life: 6-month-olds do not hesitate before reaching toward new toys, but 12-month-olds do. (Putnam & Stifter, 2002)
- Our findings from B2BB demonstrate the same pattern. Babies reached quickly toward the tray of new toys at 6 months, but tended to hesitate in response to the same toys at 12 months.
- Interestingly, we also found the same pattern of hesitation in response to novel foods: 6-month-olds were less rejecting of new foods in the lab compared to the 12-month-olds.

Publications


Visit our [Lab Website](http://www.hhdev.psu.edu/ebp) for more information, including our previously published papers:

- [http://www.hhdev.psu.edu/ebp](http://www.hhdev.psu.edu/ebp)

Conference Presentations