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- Big data about small people: The Play & Learning Across a Year (PLAY) Project
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Abstract 19

Piaget, Montessori, and Bruner observed that play is the work of infants. The PLAY (Play 20

& Learning Across a Year) project seeks to catalyze discovery about the form and dynamics 21

of this essential work across a critical period from 12 to 24 months of age when infants show 22

remarkable advances in language, object interaction, locomotion, and emotion regulation. 23

PLAY will leverage the joint expertise of 65 "launch group" researchers and capitalize on the 24

Databrary video-sharing library and Datavyu video-coding tool to exploit the power of video 25

to reveal the richness and complexity of behavior. The PLAY researchers will collect, 26

transcribe, code, share, and exploit a video corpus of infant and mother naturalistic activity 27

in the home to test hypotheses about behavioral, developmental, and environmental cascades. 28

In turn, the project will demonstrate the value and feasibility of a cross-domain synergistic

approach to infant research while advancing new ways to use video as data and

documentation to facilitate discovery and ensure transparency. 31

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Big data about small people: The Play & Learning Across a Year (PLAY) Project

Behavior lies at the core of developmental science (Gibson, 1994). Video is a uniquely powerful tool for capturing the richness and complexity of behavior (K. E. Adolph, Gilmore, & Kennedy, 2017; Rick O Gilmore & Adolph, 2017), documenting its microstructure in real time and global patterns of change over development (Gesell, 1946, 1991). Video chronicles who did what, and how, when, and where they did it (K. E. Adolph et al., 2017; Gilmore & Adolph, n.d.; Rick O Gilmore, Adolph, Millman, & Gordon, 2016). Most infancy researchers collect video as primary data or as a backup to online coding procedures, but until recently, few have openly shared video because of ethical and technical challenges. As those challenges recede and the culture of developmental science begins to embrace more open, transparent, and reproducible practices (Frank et al., 2017), the time is ripe to capitalize on the unique power of video to catalyze discovery and transform knowledge about behavioral development in infancy.

The Play & Learning Across a Year (PLAY) project (K. E. Adolph, Gilmore, & Tamis-LeMonda, 2016, 2018) builds on the NICHD/NSF-funded Databrary video-sharing library ("Databrary," n.d.; Gilmore, Adolph, & Millman, 2016) and the Datavyu video-coding tool (K. E. Adolph, 2015; "Welcome! || datavyu," n.d.) developed and supported by Adolph and Gilmore, and it unites the joint expertise of 65 PLAY "launch group" researchers in the United States and Canada. PLAY will create the first-of-its-kind, large-scale, openly shared, readily reusable, transcribed, coded, and curated video corpus of human behavior. In addition, PLAY seeks to advance new video-based means of research documentation that hold promise to increase transparency and bolster reproducibility (K. E. Adolph et al., 2017; Rick O Gilmore & Adolph, 2017) across the behavioral sciences. In this paper, we describe the process of planning PLAY, our preliminary results from a small pilot study, and plans for a larger scale implementation we expect to launch in late 2018.

Project Planning

Why's and wherefore's

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We named the project "PLAY" and use the terms "unstructured play" and "everyday play" to broadly refer to infants' natural activities while awake. To paraphrase Piaget (Piaget, 1967), Montessori (Montessori, 1984), and Bruner (Jerome S Bruner, 1975; Jerome Seymour Bruner, 1976), play is the work of infants. It is an approach to action, not a particular form of activity. Some of infants' play involves toys and some play is joyful and goal directed, but all of their spontaneous vocalizations, interactions with objects and people, and locomotor bouts involve exploration and opportunities for learning and growth, regardless of affect or intent.

69 Recruiting the launch group

Planning for the project began in late 2015. Adolph, Tamis-LeMonda and Gilmore 70 (PLAY PIs) invited researchers to join the launch group based on their interest in open 71 science and infant-mother natural activity in the home, willingness to collaborate on data 72 collection and coding, lab location, and domains of expertise (language, gesture, play, object exploration, tool use, locomotion, posture, physical activity, emotion, temperament, parent responsiveness, gender, home environment, media use, spatial demography, and sampling). Nearly every invite agreed. As of Spring 2018, the current launch group consists of 65 researchers from 49 institutions and 24 states. 34% are new investigators, 68% women, 18 non-white, from varied institutions (public and private universities and colleges, hospitals, agencies) with varied resources (38 public universities, 18% R15-eligible institutions) across the United States and Canada. To distribute the burden of video coding across researchers, we recruited more than 10 81 experts to shape the development of coding passes in four fundamental domains—communication, object interaction, locomotion, and emotion. These domains represent key areas of infant development and provide foundational information for future

85 discovery when time-locked to video.

86 Launch group deliberations and decisions

Through a yearlong series of telephone conversations with each launch group member 87 and 12 group webinars (K. E. Adolph, Tamis-LeMonda, & Gilmore, n.d.), we jointly 88 developed a common sampling method and protocol (including materials, technical specifications, questionnaires, and non-video measures), designed common video codes, and established an infrastructure to divide responsibilities between PLAY staff and launch group. We achieved consensus, with input from NICHD program staff, about all aspects of PLAY at a daylong workshop at NIH in December 2016, materials from which are shared on Databrary (K. E. Adolph et al., 2016). 94 The launch group jointly decided that the centerpiece of PLAY would be 900 one-hour 95 videos of infant-mother dyads during natural play in the home. Home videos are widely believed to be representative of natural activity, and provide a stark contrast to the 2- to 20-minute "snapshots" typical of standard structured lab tasks. Based on their extensive experience with naturalistic home observations (Barbaro, Johnson, Forster, & Deák, 2015; Fausey, Jayaraman, & Smith, 2016; Iverson & Wozniak, 2007; Karasik, Adolph, 100 Tamis-LeMonda, & Zuckerman, 2012; Karasik, Tamis-LeMonda, & Adolph, 2011; Karasik, 101 Tamis-Lemonda, & Adolph, 2014; Karasik, Tamis-LeMonda, Adolph, & Bornstein, 2015; 102 Rowe, 2012; Soderstrom & Wittebolle, 2013), launch group members determined that one 103 hour is sufficiently long to capture an ecologically valid window into infant and mother 104 natural behaviors. Longer recording times produce diminishing returns, risk infants becoming 105 excessively tired or hungry, and increase the cost and burden to families and researchers. 106 The launch group determined the specific foundational codes to be applied to the 107 videos in each of the domains of language and communication, locomotion and physical 108 activity, object interaction, and emotional expression. The foundational codes were chosen to 109 be informative even to non-experts and were designed to facilitate further discovery through

subsequent coding passes that build on the prior work. The codes were intended to be quick, 111 easy, and reliable to code in comparison with some other behaviors (e.g., visual attention) 112 not chosen for coding. Temporally aligned transcriptions and codes should enable researchers 113 with expertise in any domain to analyze cascades within and among these behaviors. 114 Experts in language and communication also recommended that we transcribe all mother 115 speech and infant vocalizations in formats exportable to CHILDES (MacWhinney, 2000a). 116

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Given the cost of going to families' homes, the launch group determined that we should augment recordings of natural play with a set of additional video, questionnaire, and 118 non-video measures, that together would add only ~45 minutes to the home visit. This 119 would enable researchers to test whether variations in natural play, or in characteristics of 120 distal and proximal environments, predict infant and mother behaviors when materials and conditions are held constant. Thus, the solitary and dyadic play tasks are of interest in their 122 own right, and might also serve as correlates in tests of experiential and environmental 123 influences. 124

To obtain objective data on stable home conditions (cracks in walls, broken windows, 125 ceiling stains, safety issues, etc.), physical layout (furniture, clutter, space to move, etc.), 126 educational and electronic media (writing/drawing materials, TVs, computers, etc.), and 127 gendered characteristics of infants' room, toys, and clothes, we decided to conduct video 128 home tours. Launch group experts also expressed interest in understanding whether clothing 129 and footgear affect infants' locomotion and physical activity, and each takes only moments to 130 video record. Clothing/footgear videos can reveal gendered features (bows/frills, superhero 131 emblems, patent leather shoes, army boots) (Halim, Ruble, Tamis-LeMonda, & Shrout, 2013) and influences on spontaneous activity and locomotion (Cole, Lingeman, & Adolph, 2012). 133 The launch group also deemed important a variety of questionnaire measures of infant skills, experiences, and home environment: mothers' report of infants' vocabulary, locomotor 135 milestones and falls, temperament, and use of gender labels; mother's report of family 136 demographics, media use, health, and home chaos; and a researcher-completed survey on 137

physical characteristics of the home. The PIs developed a custom tablet-based app to collect these questionnaire data efficiently, limit data input errors, use a stylus for flexible data entry, and allow automatic transfer to permanent storage on Databrary. The launch group devised methods to measure room size with a commercial laser device and ambient noise level with a commercial decibel meter.

Pilot Study

Based on the launch group's initial recommendations, we carried out a pilot study in 144 the New York City area to test the feasibility of the approach. We chose to recruit infants at 12-, 18-, and 24-months because 12- to 24-months represents a period of important, rapid 146 growth when children begin talking, using objects in symbolic play, walking, and regulating 147 emotions. For example, by 12 months, about half of infants can walk and half still crawl. By 148 18 months, infants are proficient walkers, and by 24 months, they can run, walk backwards, 149 and walk up stairs (Onis, 2006; Robinson, 2015). Around 12 months, infants produce their 150 first words. By 18 months, most display a vocabulary spurt, and by 24 months infants 151 combine words into simple sentences (Bloom, 1995; Hoff, 2013). But these ages represent 152 only group averages; individual infants show tremendous variability in these behaviors at 153 each age. 154

155 Methods

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Participants. A total of n=20 infants were tested, n=4 12-month-olds (3 female), n=12 18-month-olds (5 female), and n=4 (0 female) 24-month-olds.

All infants recruited were from the New York City area. Fifteen infants were White, one was Asian, two reported more than one race, and two did not report a race. Six were of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.

Procedure. During an initial screening call, a researcher determined eligibility for participation and obtained demographic information. The researcher scheduled a 2-hour visit

(weekday or weekend) when infants were to be between naps, meals, and baths, and would normally be home with their mothers.

The visit included parent consent, one-hour natural play, two structured play tasks,
questionnaires, video home tour, and Databrary sharing permission. Although mothers were
asked to agree to share data in the initial screening call, we requested their signed permission
at the end of the home visit when they were maximally informed about the procedures that
had taken place. If families decline to share, their data were still be stored on Databrary as
"Private" and thus available for use only by the collecting researchers for their own purposes.
Consent, sharing permission, and questionnaire data were entered on a custom Android
tablet app; paper forms and video camera on tripod provided backup.

During the visit, we recorded one hour of infant and mother activity in the home. Infant and mother went about their daily routines without restrictions. They could move from room to room; mother could do chores; TV, music, or other media could be on. The researcher held an HD video camera at the child's eye level, prioritizing view of infant over mother, keeping the infant's face, hands, and feet in view. If mother was visible, the researcher captured as much of her face and body as possible without losing view of the baby. A cardioid microphone amplified infant and mother speech and isolated background noise.

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Two structured play tasks followed the one hour of natural activity. Solitary play 180 entailed infants playing with a set of 10 nesting cups (placed half up, half down) while 181 sitting on a mat with mother nearby but not interacting (2 minutes). In dyadic play infant 182 and mother played together on the mat with a standard set of toys (3 minutes) – truck, doll, 183 baby bottle, small blanket, 2 tea cups, plates, and spoons—with mother instructed to "share 184 the toys with her child." The toys were thought to be conducive to non-symbolic (stacking 185 plates, cups), symbolic (feeding doll, putting doll to sleep), and gendered play (with truck 186 versus doll). 187

Following the play episodes, the researcher walked through each room, recording walls, floors, ceilings, windows, room contents (including infants' toys, books, media), and the

contents of infants' closets and drawers. The mother was asked to name each room, describe infant's access to rooms and spaces, and open closet doors and drawers for recording. Prior work gave us confidence that mothers would not find this procedure intrusive. The researcher narrated the video with comments about floor coverings ("throw rug," "linoleum") and anything not transparent to video.

In addition, during the visit the researcher recorded the clothes (front and back) and footgear (bottom, side, top) infants wore during the natural play session, and recorded the date infants began wearing the shoes and for how many days/week infants play indoors in shoes, socks, and barefoot.

After the naturalistic and structured play tasks, the researcher interviewed mothers on a range of infant and family measures that will yield information about language, locomotion, temperament, gender, home environment, and health. The researcher administered all questionnaires orally, and video records the interview (camera on tripod) for quality assurance, transparency, and possibly later coding.

At the end of the visit, the researcher asked mothers if the one-hour natural play session was representative of a typical day at home. If mothers reported that infants' behavior or health was atypical, we would have replaced the dyad and documented the replacement.

A publicly-accessible wiki (Soska, Adolph, Tamis-LeMonda, & Gilmore, 2016) was used to document all procedures and code definitions. The wiki links descriptions of every aspect of the protocol with exemplar third-person video clips (e.g., researcher scheduling home visit) to demonstrate typical procedures. The wiki links text-based descriptions of each code to video clips illustrating the types of behaviors that do and do not satisfy the coding criteria.

Data analysis. For this report, we used R (Version 3.4.4; R Core Team, 2017) and the R-packages acs (Version 2.1.3; Glenn, 2018), bindrcpp (Version 0.2; Müller, 2016), choroplethr (Lamstein, 2017; Version 3.6.1; Lamstein & Johnson, 2017), choroplethrMaps (Version 1.0.1; Lamstein, 2017), chron (Version 2.3.52; James & Hornik, 2018), databraryapi

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(Version 0.1.0; Rick O. Gilmore, 21AD), dplyr (Version 0.7.4; Wickham & Francois, 2016),
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    forcats (Version 0.3.0; Wickham, 2018a), ggmap (Version 2.7.900; Kahle & Wickham, 2013),
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   ggplot2 (Version 2.2.1; Wickham, 2009), httr (Version 1.3.1; Wickham, 2017a), jsonlite
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    (Version 1.5; Ooms, 2014), papaja (Version 0.1.0.9709; Aust & Barth, 2017), purrr (Version
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   0.2.4; Henry & Wickham, 2017), readr (Version 1.1.1; Wickham, Hester, & Francois, 2017),
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   stringr (Version 1.3.0; Wickham, 2018b), tibble (Version 1.4.2; Wickham, Francois, & Müller,
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    2017), tidyr (Version 0.8.0; Wickham, 2017b), tidyverse (Version 1.2.1; Wickham, 2017c),
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   and XML (Version 3.98.1.10; Lang & CRAN Team, 2018) for all of our statistical analyses.
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    Datavyu ("Welcome! | datavyu," n.d.) was used for video coding. All code used in data
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   analysis and for this manuscript may be found in the GitHub repository associated with the
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   paper ("PLAY project protocol manuscript," n.d.).
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         To compute inter-observer reliability, we ran scripts in Datavyu to selects a random
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   segment of video (25% or 5 mins) from each 20- minute segment of natural play.
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    Inter-observer reliability for the pilot videos was 96.7\%-99.3\% exact frame agreement (\kappa s >
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    .93, ps < .001) for duration codes (object interactions, locomotion, emotion) and 94.1\%-
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   99.5\% code agreement (\kappas s > .89, ps < .001) for categorical events (communicative acts,
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   gesture).
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234 Results

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with 1-2 hours of round-trip travel time, the entire data collection could be completed in less
than 4 hours.

Informal inspection of the videos verified that dyads were unaffected by the presence of
the researcher: After a few minutes of acclimation prior to natural play, mothers and infants
ignore the researcher. Infants cried and breastfed; mothers yelled, talked on the phone,
worked on computers, went about daily chores, changed infants' diapers, and gave infants
snacks. Mothers appeared comfortable with all procedures, including the video home tour.

Our pilot tests verified the feasibility of collecting all data in less than 2 hours. So,

The PIs found wide variation in home "disarray," suggesting parents present homes as they would for any other casual visitor.

All families were asked permission to share data with authorized researchers on
Databrary using language adapted from the Databrary release template (Rick O. Gilmore &
Adolph, n.d.). Nineteen of the 20 families agreed to share; 3 families agreed to share data
only with authorized Databrary researchers and 16 agreed to allow authorized researchers to
show clips in public settings for informational or educational purposes.

In carrying out detailed video coding on 4 of the participants' sessions, we established
that all four foundational coding passes are easy to learn (by undergraduate coders on
Datavyu) and time efficient (< 3 hours for both infant and mother for each coding pass per
hour of video). Adaptations to Datavyu enable transcription in English or Spanish to take
7-9 hours per hour of video, while infant and mother communicative acts and gestures
together take < 3 hours to code.

Demographic and self-report measures. Due to some technical difficulties with pilot versions of the tablet app, we are only able to report here demographic and self-report data from n = 18 families. Reconstructions of the missing data from video are ongoing, and updates will appear on the project's Databrary volume (Adolph, Tamis-LeMonda, & Gilmore, n.d.) once those are completed.

Infants had largely uncomplicated, healthy births. Birth weights (in g) ranged from 262 2616 to 4495 (mean = 3,443.80 g); 4 had birth complications (e.g., C-section, preeclampsia). Figure @ref{fig:locomotion-plot} shows the parent-reported ages for the onset of hands and knees crawling and walking using procedures Adolph has used previously (Adolph et al., 2012; Adolph, Vereijken, & Shrout, 2003).

Mothers reported having between 17 and 23 years of education, (M = 20.50) and 15 were working at least part time. Sixteen of the eighteen repondents reported a partner cohabitating with the family. The partner's education level ranged from 17 and 23 years of education, (M = 20.60) and 15 were working at least part time.

All of the infants were exposed to and spoken to in English in the home. Many were spoken to or had exposure to languages other than English. At home 4 infants were spoken to in Spanish; 3 infants were exposed to Spanish in a childcare setting. Other children were exposed to Armenian, French, Hindi, Polish, and Russian in the childcare setting. Six children in this sample were exposed only to English.

Video coding. NEED figures here.

276 Discussion

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The pilot study verified that the protocol met the launch group's criteria on scientific and practical grounds. Four of the full sessions (cases 13, 18, 29, and 20) met all internal criterion benchmarks. These were used to populate the wiki (Soska et al., 2016) with illustrative exemplars of procedures and code definitions.

Planned study

The proposed full study builds upon and extends the pilot (K. E. Adolph et al., 2016, 2018) study. We described the details in a grant proposal to NICHD submitted in June 2017 that was reviewed in October 2017. The proposal received a 1st percentile in peer review, and as of April 2018, we are awaiting a formal Notice of Award.

286 Methods

Participants. We will collect data from n = 900 infant-mother dyads from 30 different communities in 17 states located around the U.S. Each site will collect data from 30 infants, 10 each at 12-, 18-, and 24-months of age (+/- 1 week), with equal numbers of females and males. Figure @ref{fig:play-site-map} shows a map of the proposed data collection sites.

While not designed to be nationally representative, the data collection sites are diverse in aggregate based on Census data. To gather Census data reproducibly, we used the

choroplethr package (Lamstein, 2017; Lamstein & Johnson, 2017) to download data from

the Census Bureau's public API. This workflow allows us to easily gather and analyze other
Census Bureau data about the communities targeted for sampling.

Figure 3 shows the proportion of African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Asian residents in the counties surrounding the collection sites from which participating researchers will recruit. Figures 4 and 5 show economic and educational attainment indicators, respectively. Figure 6 shows the proportion of households speaking English-only versus those where Spanish or other languages are spoken, exclusively or in addition to English. Data collection sites will have soft, advisory recruiting targets based on these sorts of measures for their individual communities.

Families will be two-parent, English and/or Spanish speaking households with resident fathers, with both parents greater than 18 years of age. Infants will be term firstborns, without birth complications or disabilities, and 12, 18, or 24 months of age (±1 week); half of infants at each age and site will be boys.

The launch group deliberated over several sampling strategies (J. and P. Bornstein 308 Marc H and Jager, 2013; Davis-Kean & Jager, 2017; J. Jager, Putnick, & Bornstein, 2017). 300 Ultimately, we decided on homogeneous sampling to contain costs and understand behavioral 310 variation. Homogenous sampling maintains some control over sample characteristics through 311 a set of inclusionary criteria (here, firstborn status, English/Spanish home language, term 312 pregnancy, etc.), while maximizing select aspects of diversity (e.g., geography, SES) and 313 retaining sufficient power for group comparisons. We ruled against conventional convenience 314 sampling, which leaves sampling decisions entirely to researchers' discretion. Although 315 convenience sampling is easy and cost efficient, it risks yielding a sample that varies on too 316 many demographic dimensions to control. At the other extreme, population-based 317 (probability) sampling is cost-prohibitive due to the required sample size. The sheer volume of data would prohibit transcription and video coding, and would require hiring and training 319 special researchers for data collection, rather than relying on the existing expertise of the launch group.

Procedure. A publicly-accessible wiki similar to the one used in the pilot (Soska et al., 2016) will be used to document all procedures and code definitions.

Based on our experiences with the pilot, we will take several precautions to minimize effects of experimenter and camera presence on dyads (McCune-Nicolich, Fenson, & Others, 1984; Stevenson, Leavitt, Roach, Chapman, & Miller, 1986). We will train researchers to remain unobtrusive. They will stay at a distance, resist talking to mother or infant, and watch the infant through the viewfinder to avoid eye contact. Recording will begin after several minutes of infant-mother acclimation to the camera and researcher.

We plan to collect parent-report measures across multiple domains. For the Language 330 domain, we will use the 12-month (words and gestures) and 18- to 24-month (words and 331 sentences) versions of the MacArthur-Bates Communicative Development Inventory (MCDI). 332 The MCDI is the most widely used instrument of infant language development, administered 333 to over 60,000 children in 23 languages (Frank, Braginsky, Yurovsky, & Marchman, 2017). 334 The 12-month MCDI measures receptive and expressive vocabulary size and communicative 335 gestures; the 18- to 24-month version contains a larger set of vocabulary items and simple 336 sentence constructions. 337

Locomotion: Mothers will report the onset ages of hands-knees crawling and walking, 338 using cell phone videos, photos, and diaries to jog their memories (Adolph et al., 2012, 2003). 339 QM2: Mothers will report on infants' fall-related injuries. Infant temperament (QE1) will be 340 indexed with the Rothbart Early Childhood Behavior Questionnaire (ECBQ), very short 341 form 78,79, which measures dimensions of surgency, negative affect, and effortful control. 342 Gender (QG1): Mothers will report infants' use of gender labels (e.g., boy, girl) to refer to themselves or other people. QG2: Mothers will report their own and the father's attitudes to gender normative behavior (e.g., "I would be upset if my son wanted to dress like a girl"); and household division of labor (e.g., who does cooking). Environment (NH1): Ambient noise will be measured during natural play with a decibel meter, placed in the main room, to 347 record peak and average dB every 100 ms. NH2: In the home video tour, the researcher will

measure room dimensions with a laser distance measurer. QH3: At the end of the visit, the
researcher will fill out a survey on the home environment (from launch group member
Evans). QH4: Mothers will report use of electronic media (TV, computers, apps, etc.) by
infant and family members (from launch group member Barr). Health (QF1-4): Mothers will
report infant, parent, and family demographics, infants' health history (based on a subset of
questions from the ECLS-B 9-month and 2-year interviews), childcare experience, and
parents' and family health history including SLI, ASD, and mental illnesses.

Transcriptions and four core coding passes will be scored for both Video coding. 356 infant and mother. PLAY staff will transcribe speech at the utterance level, using standard 357 criteria for segmenting speech (MacWhinney, 2000b). Utterances will be defined by 358 independent clauses (statements with subject and predicate) with modifiers. Intonation and 359 pauses can also define breaks (e.g., "You like that . Right?" is two utterances). Mothers' 360 language-like sounds are typed out phonetically. Infant babbles are marked with "b" and 361 non-linguistic vocalizations (cry, laugh, grunt) with "c." Unintelligible utterances are marked 362 "xxx." Utterances will be time-locked to video, revealing overlaps in infant-mother speech, 363 and co-occurrence and sequencing of speech with object interactions, emotions, and 364 locomotion. Spanish transcriptions will follow the same rules.

Based on transcripts, mothers' utterances will be coded as declaratives (labels and 366 descriptions of objects and events "Red"; "Puppy"), attention-imperatives that solicit infant 367 attention ("Look at that"), action-imperatives that solicit infant action ("Put it there"), or 368 prohibition-imperatives ("Stop it!"); interrogatives (open- and close-ended questions, "Is it 369 hot?" with the exception of "tag" questions, which will be coded as declaratives, "That's a 370 ball, right?"); affirmation/conversational fillers ("Yes!"; "What's next?"), and unintelligible. 371 Infants' vocalizations will be categorized as language (sentences or words), prelinguistic 372 vocalizations (babbling or vowels), non-linguistic vocalizations (e.g., cry, laugh, scream, 373 grunt), or unintelligible. 374

Gestures will be categorized as points, show/hold up (deictic), conventional (wave

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bye-bye, thumbs-up), and representational (flapping arms to represent a bird).

Object interactions will be coded for onset and offset of manual engagement (touching, manipulating, carrying) with any manipulable, moveable object or part of an object that moves through space. Locomotion will be coded for onset and offset of self-generated locomotion of any form (e.g., crawling, walking, climbing, stepping in place). Coders also score falls, and periods when the infant is held or constrained by furniture (e.g., highchair). Emotion will be coded for onset and offset of positive (smiling, laughing) and negative (crying, frowning, fussing) facial expressions. Inter-observer reliability:

To verify inter-observer reliability, PLAY staff will rescore 25% of each infant's natural play video (5 minutes randomly drawn from each 20-minute segment), blind to the original coders' output (categorical measures: kappas >.85; duration measures: % exact frame agreement > 90%). If codes are not reliable, PLAY staff will reassign the videos to a new lab.

The launch group will jointly establish best practices for PLAY 388 analyses. Our guidelines will include: recommendations to pre-register predictions and 380 analyses; the use of procedures that use one portion of the data set to explore correlations 390 among variables and a separate subsample to confirm it; the use of reproducible and 391 transparent workflows for data processing and analyses (e.g., Ruby scripts in Datavyu; 392 syntax instead of menu-driven commands for SPSS users; scripts and functions for R users); 393 a commitment to openly sharing supplementary video codes and operational definitions to 394 avoid unnecessary duplication of coding efforts; and open sharing of null results as well as 395 positive findings. We will create means for communication (e.g., a Google group) among launch group members who wish to discuss, propose, and organize team efforts focused on answering specific video-based research questions. In addition, in keeping with emerging 398 standards in research transparency (Simmons, Nelson, & Simonsohn, 2012), we will report 399 how we determined our sample size, all data exclusions (if any), all manipulations, and all 400 measures in the study. 401

General Discussion

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The PLAY corpus will be a treasure trove of data, and it will all be made available 403 openly to the research community at the end of the study. Our hope is that it will seed substantial new scholarship.

Researchers can examine real-time behavioral cascades among infant behaviors, among 406 mother behaviors, and between infants and mothers. They can test whether particular infant 407 behaviors are temporally connected (e.g., vocalizations and gestures) or independent 408 (vocalizations and locomotion). They can test infant-to-mother cascades and vice versa, such 400 as whether infant emotional expressions affect real-time language input from mother. Prior 410 correlational work, for example, shows that infants who express higher quantities of negative 411 emotions display lower levels of language development on the MCDI and later language milestones (Bloom & Capatides, 1987; Salley & Dixon, 2007). But the evidence for these 413 findings offers limited insight into the real-time behaviors that underlie the correlations81 (Bloom & Beckwith, 1989). With PLAY, researchers can examine real-time behavioral 415 cascades by testing whether infants' negative emotions (Table 1 VE1) hinder interactions 416 with objects (Table 1 VO1) and/or vocal and gestural communications (Table 1 VL2-3), and 417 consequently, lead to low quantity and diversity of mother speech (Table 1 VL1-2). Infant 418 emotions could also facilitate language learning: Emotional expressions might elicit mental 419 state terms and emotion words from mothers (e.g., "You think mommy's leaving?", "Why 420 are you sad?"). Regardless, whether and how infant emotions affect their language 421 development requires data on the words mothers use preceding, during, and following infant 422 emotional behaviors in real time. 423

PLAY's three age groups and measures of skill and experience (e.g., MCDI, walking 424 experience) allow researchers to investigate developmental cascades in new ways. We can 425 examine age-related changes in temporal coordination among infant, mother, and 426 infant-mother behaviors—such as whether infants of different ages with different skills elicit 427 different behaviors in mothers. For example, object interactions in 12-month-olds, who are

typically at the cusp of conventional word use, might elicit declaratives from mothers 429 ("That's a truck!"), whereas object interactions in 24-month-olds, who typically have 430 substantial expressive vocabularies, might elicit interrogatives ("What's that?"). 431 Alternatively, researchers might compare language cascades in infants of different ages but 432 with similar skills—whether the vocalizations of 18- versus 24-month-olds matched on MCDI 433 vocabulary size elicit similar or different language input from mothers. Finally, we might 434 compare real-time cascades in infants of the same age but with different skills—such as 435 whether 18-month-olds who use isolated words versus those who combine words into simple 436 sentences, elicit different language input from mothers. Comparisons of real-time 437 contingencies by infant age and skill level provide a unique window into understanding 438 developmental mechanisms that underpin behavioral change. 439 Environmental cascades. PLAY's rich array of environmental measures, ranging from

440 distal macro environmental characteristics (e.g., SES, geographic region) to proximal 441 environmental features (e.g., clutter and chaos), will advance understanding of how 442 environmental risks affect everyday opportunities for learning. Researchers might test 443 proximal environmental cascades on the quantity and quality of infants' object interactions and locomotion, for example by coding video home tours (Table 1 VH1) for object availability and using laser measurements of room dimensions (Table 2 NH2). We can relate 446 environmental features of clutter, ambient noise, and so on, to mothers' speech and infants' language development. Researchers can expand the lens of environmental influences to consider how distal macro factors, such as family SES and geo-coded data on neighborhood poverty (Table 2 NH5) relate to proximal environmental measures—objects and space in the home—and in turn infant behaviors, mother behaviors, and infant language and skill. 451

2 Transparency and reproducibility

In addition to its scientific innovations, PLAY aims to serve as a model of how big data science can proceed in a maximally transparent and reproducible way.

All video and self-report data will be openly shared with the research Data sharing. 455 community on Databrary ("Databrary," n.d.), a digital web-based library for sharing and 456 reusing research videos, clips, and displays that has received support from NSF, NICHD, 457 SRCD, The Sloan Foundation, and the LEGO Foundation. Videos associated with all 458 procedures and code definitions will also be hosted and shared on Databrary and linked to 459 the wiki. The PLAY launch group will have a short period of exclusive access to the data 460 before the full dataset is shared in the summer of 2023, at the end of the projected NICHD 461 grant period. By sharing all data, procedures, and coding information openly, other 462 researchers can reuse shared videos to ask questions beyond the scope of the original study 463 (K. E. Adolph, n.d.). They can use shared video clips to learn about procedures and to 464 illustrate findings and displays for teaching (Rick O Gilmore & Adolph, 2017). 465

Of course, video contains personally identifiable information, so sharing poses special ethical issues that Databrary's policy framework solves developed a policy framework53,54 for sharing identifiable data based on obtaining participants' permission to share and restricting access to authorized researchers under the oversight of their institutions.

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PLAY is committed to using and deploying free and Free, open-source tools. 470 open source tools wherever possible. Databrary itself is a free and open-source application 471 (Gilmore & Simon, n.d.). Datavyu (K. E. Adolph, 2015; "Welcome! || datavyu," n.d.) is a 472 powerful, flexible, coding tool that allows researchers to manipulate the temporal-spatial 473 properties of behavior and to tag portions of the video for events and behaviors of interest. 474 With fingertip control over video playback, they can run the video forward and backward at 475 varying speeds ($\pm 1/32$ - 32x normal speed) or jog frame by frame to determine when behaviors began and ended, freeze frames to dissect behavior into its component parts, zoom 477 in/out to focus on details or the larger context, and label behavioral events with categorical and qualitative codes. Each code is time-locked to the video to facilitate tests of behavioral 479 cascades and real-time contingencies based on sequential order, duration, and begin/end 480 times of events. A full scripting language allows researchers to manipulate the spreadsheet, 481

error-check entries, import other data streams, and export data to their specifications for analyses. The latest Datavyu release has new features to reduce the notoriously high cost of transcribing infant and mother speech in noisy contexts, time locked to video, at the utterance level (from the typical 10-12 hours per hour of video to 7-9 hours).

Open, transparent, and reproducible workflows. We have already begun to 486 develop and deploy reproducible workflows using R. A repository on Github 487 (PLAY-behaviorome) has been created to house processing scripts for the PLAY data 488 (Gilmore, n.d.) including analyses of the PLAY launch group members characteristics, 489 characteristics of the data collection sites, and so on. The PLAY-behaviorome repository includes the newly released alpha version of the databraryapi R package (Gilmore, 21AD) for interacting with Databrary from within R. We welcome community input on the package, and we plan to improve the package over time. We will eventually release a Python version, 493 as well. In addition, this paper's analyses and plots can be re-generated from the repository 494 associated with the working manuscript ("PLAY project protocol manuscript," n.d.). 495

Reducing false-positives and pre-registration. Naturally, The creation of a 496 large dataset with many variables raises the possibility that a particular statistically 497 significant finding may be spurious. In particular, correlational analyses among non-video 498 questionnaire data require special protection against spurious findings because of the large 490 number of easily available measures (Table 2). The corpus includes a summary score for each 500 infant on each instrument, subscores for standard scales, and raw data for each item. For 501 example, researchers will have access to infants' total productive vocabulary on the MCDI, 502 the number of words produced within specific categories (e.g., animal words; action words), 503 and production of each word. Similarly, researchers will have access to fully processed, ready-to-analyze data on infant temperament, locomotor experience, infant health, environmental chaos, media use, family demographics, and so on. Spurious results and duplication of analyses are especially likely from these "low-hanging fruit."

In contrast to the ready-to-use questionnaire data, analyses of time-locked video codes

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raise other analytic issues. Data from the foundational coding passes will not be "ready to 509 go." Researchers will need to make decisions about how to process the data—whether to 510 turn categorical codes into frequencies or rates; whether to convert onset/offset times into 511 average durations, latencies from one behavior to another, sequences of behavior, or other 512 analytic constructs. We will encourage individual launch group members to use their 513 expertise and Datavyu training to mine the video corpus (by further coding of natural play 514 and coding of structured play sessions and the home tour). Additional coding passes will be 515 labor intensive, and duplication of coding effort would waste researchers' time. 516

Of course, PLAY's homogenous sampling strategy and cross-sectional design have
limitations. Although the sample will not be nationally representative, it will capture
important demographic variations and can easily grow. With only one session per dyad, we
cannot test stability or predictive validity of behaviors. However, the protocol and codes can
be easily extended to other populations and to longitudinal designs (several launch group
members plan to do this). If labs assigned to data collection or coding cannot fulfill their
tasks, we will replace them.

We will monitor ongoing data collections. If the data are too homogeneous, we will ask some sites to recruit more than their allotment. If a lab's codes are not reliable, we will reassign the videos and retrain the coder.

527 Conclusion

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In conclusion, the PLAY project represents an innovative, synergistic, cross-domain
approach to developmental science that will facilitate scientific discovery, transparency, and
reproducibility we hope for years to come. In creating the first, large-scale, sharable,
reusable, fully transcribed, coded, and curated video corpus of human behavior, we hope to
establish video sharing of procedures, codes, and findings as a new standard in
developmental and behavioral science. In so doing, we hope to help answer fundamental
cross-domain questions about behavioral, environmental, and developmental cascades as they

 $_{535}\,$ shape the playful work of infants.

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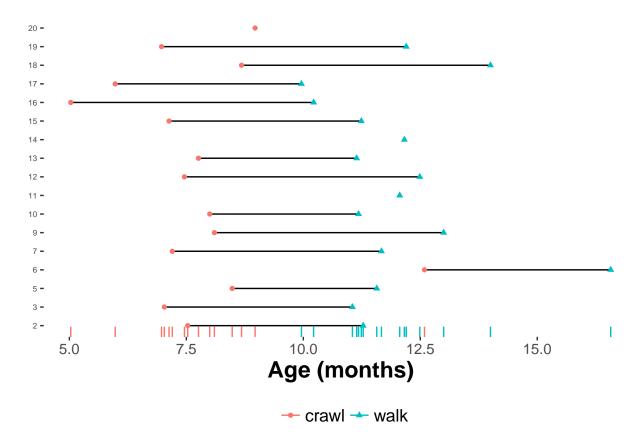


Figure 1. Parent-reported onset ages for hands and knees crawling and walking

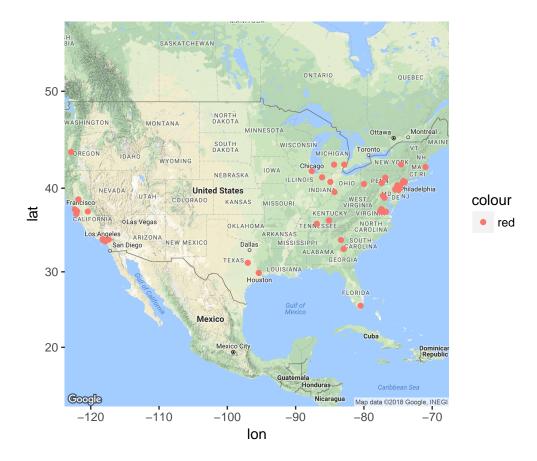


Figure 2. Map of planned data collection sites for PLAY project.

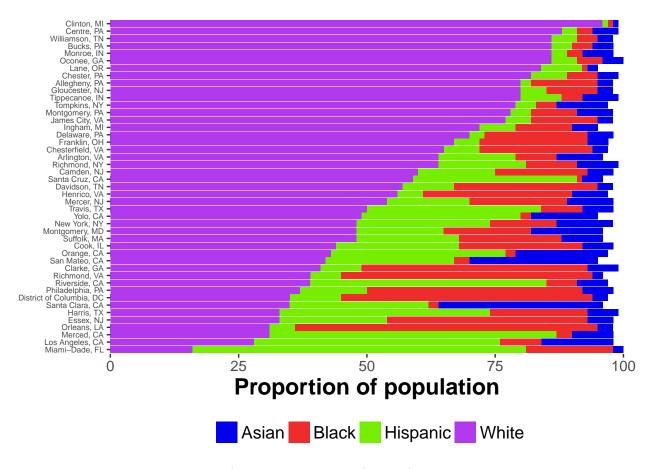


Figure 3. Racial composition of counties targeted for PLAY project recruitment.

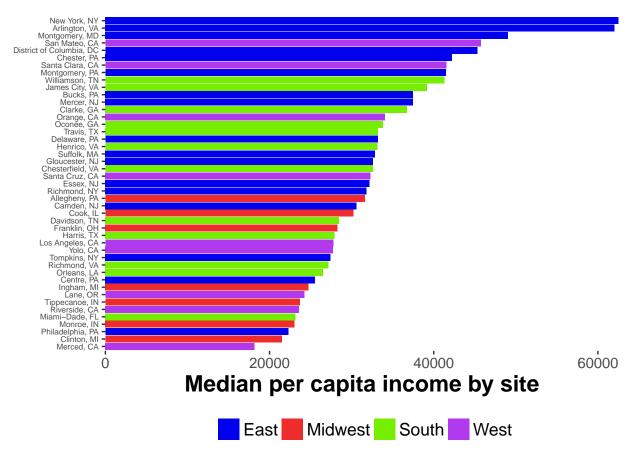


Figure 4. Median per capita income per year in counties targeted for PLAY project recruitment.

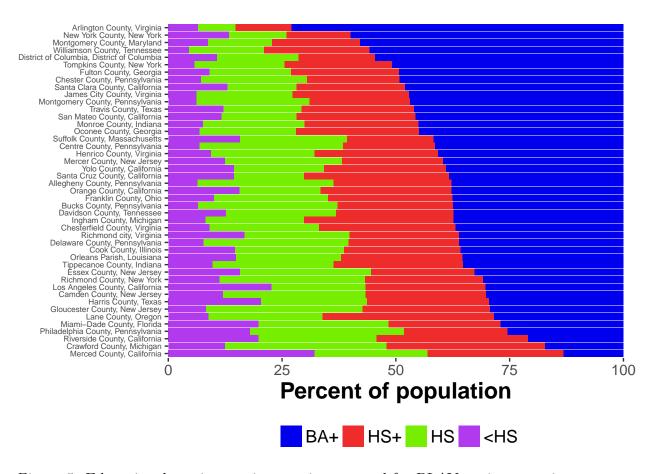


Figure 5. Educational attainment in counties targeted for PLAY project recruitment.

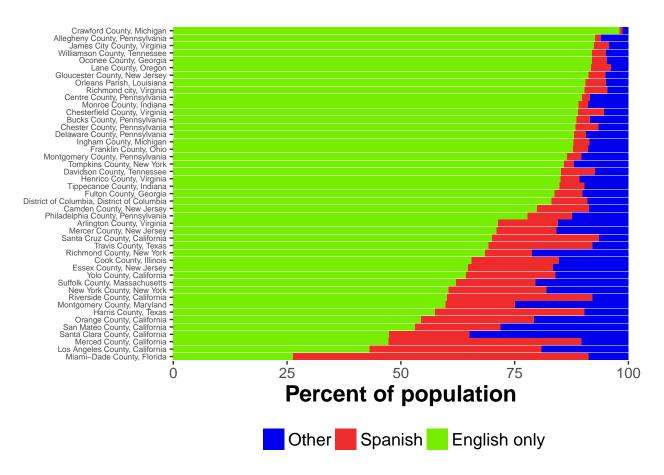


Figure 6. Proportion of English-only, Spanish, and Other language speakers in counties targeted for PLAY project recruitment.