



Information sheet for parents

Project title: Studying children's language development on the internet

Invitation to participate. Your child is invited to participate in a research study on how children use language. This document explains our study, what your rights are, and what will be done with the data we collect. You may want to keep this page for your records, as it contains our contact information.

What is the study about? This project investigates how children learn to fluently speak words. As adults, we rarely need to think about what words we want to say, but for children it is much harder. Here, we are studying what makes it hard for children to remember a word, by looking at how they name pictures.

What will happen? If you agree for your child to participate, we will schedule an online meeting with you via Microsoft Teams. In the meeting, we will share our screen with you and show your child the pages of a picture book that we have created. We will ask your child to tell us the names of the pictures that they can see. The pictures will be of familiar objects and animals, e.g. a clock and a horse. We will video-record your child's responses so that we can examine the names that they said, how long it took them to say those names, and where they looked while they were trying to remember the names. The experiment will last about 30 minutes. We will work with your child to make sure they enjoy the task.

Compensation. For your participation in this study you will receive a £10 gift card as compensation.

Risks and benefits. There are no known risks to participation in this study. There are no tangible benefits to you or your child, however you will be making a contribution to our knowledge about language and how it is learned.

Confidentiality and use of data. All the information we collect during the course of the research will be processed in accordance with Data Protection Law. In order to safeguard your own and your child's privacy, we will never share personal information (like names or dates of birth) with anyone outside the research team. Your child's data will be referred to by a unique participant number rather than by name. We will store any personal data (e.g., audio/video recordings, signed forms) using the University of Edinburgh's secure encrypted storage service or in a locked filing cabinet at the University of Edinburgh. The anonymised data collected during this study will be used for research purposes and non-identifiable data may be shared with other researchers or with the general public (e.g., we may make it available through the world wide web, or use it in TV or radio broadcasts).

What are my data protection rights? The University of Edinburgh is a Data Controller for the information you provide. You have the right to access information held about you. Your right of access can be exercised in accordance with the Data Protection Law. You also have other rights including rights of correction, erasure and objection. For more details, including the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office, please visit www.ico.org.uk. Questions, comments and requests about your personal data can also be sent to the University Data Protection Officer at dpo@ed.ac.uk.

Voluntary participation and right to withdraw. We will ask your child's permission before we begin the study, and we will make sure they understand that they can stop the study at any point. You may also choose to withdraw your child from the study at any time. Any data supplied up to that point will be deleted.

If you have any questions about what you've just read, please contact Clara Kunst by email at ckunst@ed.ac.uk. This project has been approved by the PPLS Ethics committee. If you have questions or comments regarding your own or your child's rights as a participant, they can be contacted at 0131 650 4020 or ppls.ethics@ed.ac.uk.

Thank you for your help!

Dr Hugh Rabagliati (Principal Investigator) and Clara Kunst (Research Assistant)

By checking the consent box below, I agree that:

- (1) I have read and understood the Participant Information Page
- (2) Questions about my child's participation in this study have been answered satisfactorily.
- (3) I am aware of the potential risks (if any), and
- (4) I am taking part in this research study voluntarily (without coercion) and I understand that my child and I are free to withdraw at any time without giving any reason, without our rights being affected.
- (5) I understand that anonymised data collected during the study will be stored anonymously and may be placed on academic repositories. Video data will not be shared with anyone outside the immediate research team.
- (6) I understand that the data collected for this study may be presented anonymously at conferences and written up for publication in an academic journal. This will not involve the presentation of any videos or the reporting of individual evaluations; only the aggregate results of whole participant groups.
- (7) I agree to my child's responses being video- and audio-recorded during the study session.
- (8) I am happy for my child's anonymised data to be used in future research.
- (9) I understand that this research project does not involve or report comparisons or evaluations of individuals.