

Developmental Disabilities Research Lab

Hello Friends!

We have made it through the cold winter days and have moved on to warm, sunny spring and summer time! We hope you and your family are enjoying the flowers and the sunshine! And we hope to connect with you soon! Please reach out to our team if you would like to participate in any of our new and/or ongoing studies.

-The Developmental Disabilities Lab Team



We had so much fun at Gigi's Glow Run! We were so happy seeing familiar faces, meeting new families and connecting with our wonderful community.

New Study: Early Health and Motor Abilities in Down Syndrome

Our team is conducting a new study on the early foundations of health and motor abilities in children with Down syndrome. Participants will engage in playful assessment activities and wear a physical activity watch at home. Parents will fill out surveys and have the option of wearing a physical activity watch too. Your participation will help us learn how to best promote healthy outcomes!

Age range: Children 18-47 months of age

Families Receive \$300 compensation

Locations in Fort Collins and Greater Denver

New Study: Improving Early Screening in Down Syndrome

The DD Lab at CSU is conducting a new study on early development in children with Down syndrome! We are studying cognitive, social, communication, and play skills and how different profiles are associated with later developmental diagnoses such as autism, as well as co-occurring medical conditions. Findings from this study will be used to improve screening during early childhood in Down syndrome!



Children
18-21 months with
Down syndrome



Families
can receive
up to \$300



Locations in
Fort Collins
& Denver



Science Corner

Sensory processing, Motor Skills, and Problem Solving (Schworer et al., 2021)

Your participation helped our team examine the link between infant sensory processing (understanding and processing touch, movement, and other sensory input), motor abilities, and early problem-solving.

STUDY ACTIVITIES:

We measured each infants' sensory processing with a questionnaire, and we evaluated their motor abilities using a formal assessment. We also gave infants a baby problem solving task, where a toy was placed just out of reach on a cloth that was within reach. To obtain the toy, infants could generate a strategy that involved pulling on the cloth to bring the toy within reach.

WHAT DID WE FIND?

We found that infants who had (a) sensory processing abilities that helped them maintain alertness and (b) demonstrated more motor abilities were able to plan more efficiently and use problem-solving to obtain the toy.

HOW WILL THIS BE APPLIED?

This finding suggests that addressing early sensory processing and motor foundations may have significant implications for early problem-solving skills.

RAM SCHOLARS

The RAM Scholars Program is an Inclusive Higher Education opportunity at Colorado State University for adults with an intellectual disability. RAM Scholars take agricultural sciences classes at CSU and develop career-related skills through a summer internship. RAM Scholars receive individualized support from CSU peers and faculty to facilitate their success! Do you know a potential Ram Scholar? Call the RAM Scholars Office to learn more. 970-430-5454



We were so happy to be a part of the annual meeting of the ARC of Larimer County in April! Thank you, Arc, for the opportunity to share our recent work with your wonderful organization!

RAM Scholars

An Inclusive Career Training Program



Congratulations to our RAM Scholars for completing their first semester!

Preparing young adults with IDD in Northern Colorado for competitive paid employment pathways in agriculture
Students 18 + years | Interest in career in agriculture | Documented intellectual disability



The Developmental Disabilities Research Lab is part of the Department of Human Development and Family Studies and the College of Health and Human Sciences at Colorado State University.

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