

Dear Caregivers,

Easterseals is currently conducting a study **to determine how leisure/play skill performance is influenced by motivation**. We would like to invite you to participate in a study being conducted by the Easterseals Research Division.



Purpose

- Research has shown that increases in motivation can increase errors in accuracy but increase generalization of learned skills.
- **The purpose of this study is to assess if motivational level can influence generalization of a learned play or leisure skill to novel situation.**



Procedures

- Your child will be taught a multi-step task that leads to the creation of a final product (e.g., Lego blocks to build a Lego car).
- A researcher will test performance when your child is motivated for the item (e.g., child has not had access to item for a week) AND when your child is not motivated for the item (e.g., child has access to the item before the test).
- 2 tests will be conducted after the skill has been learned. Twice when highly motivated and twice when not motivated by the toy.
- **WHERE:** Experimental sessions will take place during typical therapy sessions, or outside of sessions free-of-charge if needed.
- **DURATION:** The study will be conducted across 4 tests, each lasting approximately 10 minutes (40 minutes total), across 2 different days.



Risks

- There are no known risks associated with participating in this study.
- Participants may experience discomfort when they are not given access to the preferred item for a week.
- *****Items used in the study should be of interest to the participant but not something they are dependent on daily*****



Benefits

- Your child may learn how to make or build a preferred item and generalize to novel situations.
- We hope to learn additional information about how motivation and performance interact that may be of use to other children and society.



Confidentiality

- Participation in this study will be protected information and will not be shared outside of the researchers involved in the study.
- Data obtained from this study will have any identifying information removed and may be used in other investigations without additional consent.
- All data will be maintained on an encrypted laptop and *will be kept for a minimum of five years, per APA guidelines.*

Alternatives to Participation: Participation in this study is **voluntary**. You may withdraw from study participation at any time without any penalty.

Questions/Concerns: If you have any questions please contact Easterseals' Vice President of Research, Dr. Amin D. Lotfizadeh, at Amin.Lotfizadeh@essc.org (714)425-5388.