Dear Parent,

We invite your child to participate in a scientific study. We are conducting research at Georgia State University in Atlanta. The purpose of the study is to help understand brain development of learning and language in children.

We are studying the brains of children while they do learning and language activities. This will help us learn how children can become better at communicating. We expect this study to show us how learning sign language may help children improve other types of learning. We also expect this study to lead to better treatments for children who are struggling with language.

We will be testing children who are deaf aged 5-12 years. We hope to have 30 children participate over 1 year. Children must not have any motor, cognitive, or sensory impairment other than hearing loss. (It’s ok if they wear glasses if their vision is normal with glasses.) Children must use American Sign Language as their main way of communicating. Parent who attends with child must be fluent in written English.

Children will visit the NeuroLearn Lab at Georgia State University. They would come once for about 2 to 3 hours. Children will wear a sensor net on their scalp while completing computer activities. The sensor net will measure children’s brain activity. You and your child will have a chance to see your child’s brain activity. A researcher will also ask your child to complete some standard learning assessments. These include matching pictures, remembering numbers, signing the meaning of words, and more.

We will give you $100 for your time. We will give your child a toy, book, or other appropriate item worth about $10. You will stay near your child for the entire visit.

We hope that you are interested in participating in this exciting project. If you would like to learn more or to make an appointment, please contact us at 404-413-6294 or email NeuroLearnLab@gsu.edu. We are near a MARTA stop. We also provide free parking.

Thank you for your interest in helping us understand brain development. Your participation is important for gaining new knowledge that will lead to improvements in the education and treatment of our children.

Sincerely,

Christopher M. Conway, PhD
Associate Professor of Psychology
Director, NeuroLearn Lab

Research Team: Joanne Deocampo, PhD, Leyla Eghbalzad, MA, Gerardo Valdez, BS