

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Postdoctoral Researcher in Developmental Psychology
Department / Unit:	Department of Psychology
Job type	Research
Grade:	7
Accountable to:	Senior Lecturer, Department of Psychology
Accountable for:	Not Applicable

Purpose of the Post

The post is funded by a Nuffield Foundation grant, Do Infants Learn New Words from Educational Picture Books? (EDO/43951). The Principal Investigator is Dr Jeanne Shinskey, director of the Royal Holloway Baby Lab. The Co-Investigator is Dr Jessie Ricketts, director of the Language and Reading Acquisition (LARA) lab. Both labs are members of the department's Language, Memory & Attention (LMA) research group. The purpose of the post is to work on all stages of this project.

The general aim is to assess 1-year-olds' learning of words from educational picture books read by parents at home for several weeks, by pre- and post-testing infants' receptive vocabulary for words in the book and comparing it to that of a control group. Specific objectives are to establish how infants' word learning is affected by the book's 1) pictorial features such as realism; 2) tactile features such as texture (i.e., touch-and-feel books).

Key Tasks

- Recruit and test infant participants
- Design and prepare the experiments and materials
- Work with junior researchers/assistants (e.g., on data coding)
- Analyse data
- Present ongoing work in regular meetings
- Disseminate the findings to academic audiences (e.g., manuscript writing, seminars, conference presentations)
- Communicate with non-academic stakeholders (e.g., via parent newsletters, online platforms, practitioner workshops)

Other Duties

- Data management (including archiving)
- Maintaining Baby Lab participant database
- Monitoring the research budget (e.g., participant funds)
- Any other duties as required by the PI that are commensurate with the grade

The duties listed are not exhaustive and may be varied from time to time as dictated by the changing needs of the College. The post holder will be expected to undertake other duties as appropriate and as requested by his/her manager.

The post holder may be required to work at any of the locations at which the business of Royal Holloway is conducted.

Internal and external relationships

The following list is not exhaustive but the post holder will be required to liaise with:

Internal

- PI and Baby Lab research team
- CI and LARA lab research team
- Language, Memory and Attention research group

External

- The project's advisory group members (academic and non-academic)
- The project's focus group of parents