We are seeking a group of highly motivated students who wish to gain hands-on research experience and learn about how young minds work, while making valuable contributions to cognitive science. If you’ve ever wondered, “What goes on in the mind of a young child?”, this is your chance to find out!

**Project “Baby Physics”**

We’re trying to discover what young infants know about physical laws such as gravity and support (e.g. that objects can’t float in mid-air!). We have collected hundreds of videos of babies watching various physical events. Some are ordinary events (e.g. a ball rolling down a ramp) but some are unexpected (e.g. a ball rolling up!).

We need your help to look at each video and measure what infants were looking at and for how long. By comparing their attention to expected vs. unexpected events, we can tell what infants know about the world!

Will the bottle roll up or down? Are the babies looking left or right?

**Internship details**

- Learn & use video annotation software to analyze infant behavior (50% of time)
- Attend weekly reading group (topics in cognitive science, developmental psychology, and more)! (25% of time)
- Participate in daily check-ins with mentor and other interns, including social activities (15%)
- Create a short group presentation to share achievements and lessons learnt (10%)

**When:** June 22 - August 28, 2020

25 hours / week

**Where:** Remote internship

**Other:** Stipend of $1000 per student

Requires access to a password-protected Mac computer with reliable internet access.

**Qualifications**

- High School Student
- Must be at least 16 years old by June 1, 2020
- Obtain a work permit from your school
- Self-starter. Ability to make decisions with imperfect information.

- Genuine intellectual curiosity & drive to learn.
- High level of maturity and professionalism expected

To apply, email a cover letter explaining why you want to participate in this internship to:

mitplaylab+internship@gmail.com

**About the lab**

This internship is hosted by Professor Laura Schulz and the Early Childhood Cognition Lab.

Visit our lab website to learn more! eccl.mit.edu

At the Early Childhood Cognition Lab, researchers study how young children explore and understand the world around them. We recently developed a novel online platform, Lookit! (lookit.mit.edu), so that children from all over the world can participate in our research studies from their own homes.