



TRINITY COLLEGE • HARTFORD • CONNECTICUT  
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Department of  
Psychology

July 1, 2002

Dear Parents:

The Trinity College Community Child Center serves as an observational center for students in the Psychology Department. In this capacity, children at the Center will be involved in several brief studies, each of which illustrates an important concept of child development. The purpose of these observations is to acquaint students in the various child development courses with some general information about how children grow and develop.

None of the studies will evaluate any individual child's abilities or skills. The goal of each study is to show general patterns of developmental change rather than individual behavior. Prior to any study, students are instructed on how to appropriately interact with young children. All student observations occur in the Center, at times specifically arranged with the Director and the Teachers. Each study takes approximately 20 minutes and is presented to the child as a game. Children who have participated in these studies in the past found them to be fun and interesting.

A brief description of each study is given below. A parental permission slip for you to sign is attached. I will be happy to answer any questions you might have about these observations or to provide you with additional information about a specific study. My number at the Psychology Department is 297-2236. Thank you for your interest and cooperation.

#### Description of Studies

**Sensorimotor Development Study.** In this study, students will observe how children respond to such games as peek-a-boo and hide the toy to see whether young children can recognize when people and objects are hidden.

**Language Development Study.** In this study, students will observe children to see how language changes from one and two word utterances to more complex sentence expressions in different types of contexts.

**Memory Development Study.** In this study, students will observe how much children can remember when they are instructed to name a series of objects shown to them.

**Preoperational Development Study.** In this study, students will observe how children of different ages solve various problems and the types of reasons they give for their solutions.

**Play Behavior Study.** In this study, students will observe how male and female children interact in structured and unstructured play situations, noting any similarities and differences.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dina Anselmi".

Dina Anselmi, Ph D.  
Associate Professor of Psychology  
Trinity College Community Child Center Board Member

### Parental Consent

I have read and understand the nature and purpose of the studies described in the letter for Dr. Dina Anselmi dated September 26, 2002. I am aware that I can ask and have answered any questions I have regarding these studies and that my child can withdraw from any study at any time he/she wishes. I am also aware that my child will not be referred to by name, but rather by code number. I hereby give my permission to let my child participate in these studies.

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_