



# TEAMING UP WITH TEAM DUCKLING

Over the last year we've had some enthusiastic volunteers from Team Duckling, a group of students and professors who study developmental psychology at the University of Oregon, assisting with Tot Discovery Day activities. Thanks to help from the National Living Lab initiative, Science Factory and Team Duckling are working together to bring cutting-edge research on mind and brain development directly to our visitors on the Museum floor.

In the Living Laboratory's educational model, scientists in psychology and related fields recruit participants and conduct their studies within dynamic exhibits at their local museum. Families visiting the museum are invited to participate in ongoing research projects in areas such as language, emotions, and social reasoning, and to engage in one-on-one conversations with the scientists. The National Living Lab initiative grew out of a project started at the Museum of Science, Boston in 2005. Since then, through a grant from the National Science Foundation, Living Lab has expanded to four hub sites and dozens of science centers around the country.

**Team Duckling researchers are interested in a wide range of questions about how young minds grow and develop.** The eight affiliated labs study everything from speech and language, to theory of mind, to imagination. Team members and their research include:



Caitlin Fausey, assistant professor of psychology, has conducted studies in which infants

and toddlers wear cameras on their heads during everyday experiences. By watching the captured video,

Fausey and her colleagues can learn what visual information is available to these children, and how the scope of their visual world changes over time.



Dare Baldwin, professor of psychology, studies how infants make sense of human action. If an

infant sees an adult make a motion, for example, how does the infant start to understand the reason for that motion? How do infants learn to redescribe that motion in terms of intentions and goals? She tries to answer these questions by showing an action or motion to infants and seeing where their attention is focused.



Lou Moses, professor of psychology, studies how young children develop "theory of mind" — that

is, an understanding of how other people can possess knowledge and thoughts that may be different from their own. His lab's current work studies the differences in theory of mind development between typically developing children and children with autism.

**Both Science Factory visitors and Team Duckling scientists benefit from this new collaboration.** Team Duckling researchers are able to conduct their studies in a lively and playful environment—our Museum! And they will learn from Science Factory educators some of the best ways to talk to visitors and explain their research. The Science Factory, meanwhile, will provide news about current research in child development and give visitors access to the researchers who are doing this important work right here in our own backyard.

To celebrate this exciting collaboration, the Museum is hosting **Living Lab Day** on Saturday, March 7 from 11 am to 3 pm. Researchers from many different UO psychology labs will be available to present their current work and engage you in their ongoing research projects. Activities are included with Exhibit Hall admission, and visitors who participate in studies will receive a free pass to visit the Exhibit Hall or Exploration Dome on a future date.

This spring, be sure to look for *Living Laboratory* activities on Tot Discovery Days and other days throughout the year. Say hello to the researchers and find out what they are up to! You also don't have to wait to get involved with Team Duckling. Visit [teamduckling.uoregon.edu](http://teamduckling.uoregon.edu) to be contacted about upcoming studies.