

Research about memory, literacy and language in children and young people



What is the research project?

We want to find out more about **procedural memory**. Procedural memory is when you know something but do not remember learning it.

We want to find out:

1. Do children with and without a learning disability have good procedural memory?
2. Are children with good procedural memory also good at language and reading tasks?

Who can take part?

Children can take part if they are:

- 4-11 years old
- Typically developing
- Do not have any special educational needs or diagnoses such as autism or learning disabilities

What will the research will involve?

- A researcher (Rachel Dennan) will visit each child at school 2 or 3 times.
- Each visit will last 30-45 minutes. The visits will take about 90 minutes in total.
- In each session the child will do some tasks and games with the researcher:
 - Memory games on an iPad
 - Word games with pictures
 - Reading words
 - Thinking about shapes
 - Telling us what some words mean



Benefits of the research:

- We have ethical approval to share the results from the tasks the child completes with you. This can give a picture of the language and literacy abilities of each child.
- We have made a leaflet with information about learning disabilities and advice for those working with children with learning disabilities.
- In the future we might be able to help other children with learning disabilities using the results from this research.
- Students should enjoy the novel memory game on the iPad and will receive a certificate upon completion.
- You will receive a publication at the end of the project detailing the key findings and their implications.
- You will be invited to an engagement event at the end of the project to summarise the results and discuss their educational relevance.



What do we need from you?

- We need you to identify children from your school that you think are suitable.
- Send home the information sheets and consent forms provided by the researcher.
- Collect the consent forms brought back to school.
- Arrange the dates that the researcher can come in to school to see these children.

How to contact us:

Feel free to contact the researchers if you have any questions about the study.

- You can email Rachel Dennan at rachel.dennan@city.ac.uk or phone her on 07776596398.
- Alternatively, you can email Lucy Henry at lucy.henry.1@city.ac.uk or phone her on 020 7040 4513.

