

Music

for Young Listeners with ASD



Children with Autism (ages 4–12) and their Parents/Guardians Needed for a Study about Music Listening Preferences and Engagement

Would you like to see your child's pleasure and engagement while listening to music increase? Does your child enjoy multi-sensory environments in which they can control settings of light and sound? Might your child benefit from a music-listening device that allows them to increase or decrease the level of music stimulation?

Summary

We invite you and your child with autism to participate in a safe, interactive, and musically engaging research project run by University of Delaware faculty and students in collaboration with Autism Delaware. Inspired by Autism Delaware's mission -- "that all people with autism have opportunities to learn, grow, and live full lives as included and valued members of their communities" -- the focus of our research is to create arrangements of children's songs that promote engaged music listening by children with autism. These arrangements are intended to empower such children to listen with pleasure, attention, and participation (e.g. singing along), and to thus gain access to a formative cultural experience shared by many children. The arrangements composed by music students and faculty at the University of Delaware are designed specifically for children with autism, and future compositions and technology innovations will benefit from you and your child's input.

Commitment

Research participants (one parent-child pair) will complete a single short survey providing introductory information and availability. Based on this availability, a meeting will be arranged at the Rt. 9 Library and Innovation Center (New Castle, DE) multi-sensory room. During this 60–90 min. session, the child will be introduced to the multi-sensory room and music-listening device, and then have the opportunity to listen to interactive children's songs on a prototype music-listening device. Following the session, both parent and child will be asked to complete a short semi-structured interview about the experience.

Qualifications

Child participants must be between 4–12 years of age, accompanied by one parent or legal guardian, and must not be hearing impaired.

Compensation

Study participants will receive one \$50 Amazon Digital Gift Card (sent by email) as compensation. In addition, participants whose home is more than 5 miles from the Rt. 9 Library will receive additional compensation for mileage and travel time.

Participate

To volunteer you and your child as participants in this study, please complete the following eligibility questionnaire (see QR code): <https://tinyurl.com/MusicforListenerswithASD>

Contact

If you have any questions, please email Dr. Matthew Mauriello (mlm@udel.edu). Feel free to take a look at our research lab's website to find out more about our research program: <http://sensifylab.org/>. Please also feel free to redistribute this posting to any families or other interested parties.

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