

Interacting with Children Skills Training for Undergraduates

Study Protocol with Statistical Analysis Plan and Informed Consent Form

NCT ID Not Yet Assigned

Unique Protocol ID: STUDY00001379

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INSTRUCTIONSⁱ:

- Use HRP-503 - TEMPLATE PROTOCOL to prepare a document with the information from the following sections.
- Depending on the nature of your study, some sections may not be applicable to your research. If so, mark the box noting, "Select if this section is not applicable to your research project," if the section does not pertain to the specific protocol or study being conducted. For example, research involving a retrospective chart review may have many sections with "NA."
- Always define abbreviations upon first use throughout the protocol to facilitate the reader's understanding.
- When you write a protocol, keep an electronic copy. You will need to modify this copy using MS tracked changes when making edits.
- For submission of a protocol specific to a participating Site as part of a Multi-Site Study, use [HRP-508 – TEMPLATE - SITE SUPPLEMENT](#).
- Review HRP-103 - INVESTIGATOR MANUAL before completing this template.
- Refer to HRP-001 - SOP - Definitions, which defines terms within this document that are double underlined.

PROTOCOL TITLE:

Interacting with Children Training for Undergraduates

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Please complete the following required assurances:

- ☒ PI is not a student.
☒ I have read the PI eligibility statement and confirm that the above named PI meets criteria to be a PI on an IRB protocol at AU.

Department Head/Chair/or applicable Associate Dean for Research (ADR) Name:

Chris Correia, PhD

VERSION NUMBER/DATE:

Initial version, submitted 6/12/2026

REVISION HISTORY

Revision #	Version Date	Summary of Changes	Consent Change?
N/A	6/12/26	Initial version	N/A



1	6/23/26	Ineligible participant eligibility screener retention, audio and video recordings retention, justification for all female inclusion criteria, risks associated with study, HIPAA compliant facility language, information letter clarification	



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1.0 Objectives

1.1 *Describe the purpose, specific aims, or objectives.*

This study aims to examine the effectiveness of Child-Adult Relationship Enhancement (CARE) trainings for enhancing observed play skills, improving coding reliability, and demonstrating knowledge of CARE principles compared to a control condition among undergraduate students. It also aims to better understand the role that student motivation plays in skills acquisition and satisfaction with training.

1.2 *State the hypotheses to be tested or research questions, when appropriate to the research design.*

- (1) Participants receiving the CARE training will demonstrate greater increases in positive skills, decreases in skills to avoid during interactions, improved coding reliability, and better knowledge of CARE principles compared to the participants receiving the psychoeducation control training.
- (2) Baseline self-reported motivation will significantly predict positive skills and skills to avoid at post-training, controlling for positive and avoid skills at baseline and training group.
- (3) Higher self-reported baseline motivation will predict greater self-reported post-training satisfaction.
- (3a) Training condition will moderate the relationship between baseline motivation and self-reported post-training satisfaction.
- (Supplementary) We will also examine whether participants reach the skills acquisition goal criteria outlined by the CARE curriculum.

2.0 Background

2.1 *Describe the researcher's relevant prior experience and/or gaps in current knowledge, any relevant preliminary data, and provide the scientific or scholarly background for, rationale for, and significance of the research based on the existing literature and how it will add to existing knowledge.*

The adult-child relationship plays a central role in childhood development (Frosch et al., 2019; Popov & Ilesanmi, 2015). Many of the skills and techniques utilized by adults within adult-child interactions sometimes come naturally but often require explicit instruction to reach their full potential. Parent management training (PMT) is a type of therapeutic intervention that explicitly teaches caregivers how to use relationship enhancement skills to decrease their child's disruptive behaviors. Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) is an evidence-based PMT designed to decrease disruptive behavior problems in children ages two to seven with decades of research supporting its efficacy (Eyberg & Funderburk, 2011). Given PCIT's wide-reaching effectiveness, efforts have been made to increase the accessibility of the relationship enhancement skills taught in PCIT for use by any adult working with any child. To fulfill this gap, Child-Adult Relationship Enhancement (CARE) training was created (Gurwitch et al., 2016). CARE is an evidence-based prevention program that teaches any adult working with any child or adolescent ages two to 18 the highly effective play therapy skills taught through PMTs, such as PCIT, in order to mitigate the risks of disruptive behavior concerns and/or child maltreatment. Historically, CARE has been examined among two broad groups (i.e., professionals working with children, and caregivers). Recently, CARE was investigated among undergraduate students, and participants significantly improved their usage of positive play skills and understanding of CARE principles following CARE trainings, demonstrating CARE's



effectiveness among undergraduates (Groh, 2024). However, Groh's preliminary evidence supporting CARE among undergraduates did not contain a control condition. The current study aims to using a randomized experimental design to compare standardized CARE trainings to a control psychoeducation module among undergraduate students.

3.0 Study Outcomes

3.1 *Describe the anticipated outcomes, results, or knowledge to be obtained.*

We anticipate that the undergraduate participants enrolled in the CARE trainings will demonstrate improved observed play skills, coding reliability, and understanding of CARE principles compared to those enrolled in the psychoeducation control training. Furthermore, we hypothesize that participants' baseline self-reported motivation will predict their skills acquisition by the end of training. We also anticipate that participants with higher baseline self-reported motivation will endorse greater satisfaction with training, and that training condition (i.e., either CARE training or psychoeducation control training) will moderate that relationship. We also aim to examine whether participants reach the skills acquisition goal criteria outlined by the CARE curriculum. By studying these outcome variables among undergraduate students enrolled in this study, we hope to gain valuable information about the effectiveness of CARE trainings for undergraduate students, which can be used to improve trainings in the future.

4.0 Study Intervention or Interaction

4.1 *Describe the study intervention or interaction that is being evaluated.*

The study intervention is Child-Adult Relationship Enhancement (CARE). CARE is a preventative program that teaches any adult working with any child or adolescent ages two to 18 the highly effective play therapy skills taught through PMTs, such as PCIT, in order to mitigate the risks of disruptive behavior concerns and/or child maltreatment (Gurwitch et al., 2016). CARE utilizes a trauma-informed approach so that participants can both help prevent child maltreatment and lessen the negative impacts that abuse and neglect have on children and adolescents. The primary focus of CARE is to enhance the relationship-building skills that adults bring to an adult-child interaction so that children and adolescents will be more likely to engage positively with adults and, as a result of having a warm foundation, be more willing to comply with adult requests. CARE teaches adults to increase their positive skills ("Do" statements or "P" skills) and decrease their statements to avoid during interactions ("Don't" statements or "Q" skills) while engaging with a child or adolescent.

The study control condition is a psychoeducation training which will focus on broad child development, information about mental health in children, descriptions of common childhood psychological disorders, and general advice for how to interact with children. Various aspects of previously created trainings and information sources will be utilized, including materials from the National Training and Development Curriculum (NTDC) for Foster and Adoptive Parents (Children's Bureau et al., 2025), the Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning at Vanderbilt University (CSEFEL, n.d.), the Kids Mental Health Foundation (KMHF, n.d.), and a developmental psychology textbook (Broderick & Blewitt, 2020).

5.0 Procedures Involved



5.1 Describe and explain the study design.

This study will employ a randomized controlled experimental design in which participants are randomly assigned by a computer to either the intervention condition (i.e., CARE training) or the control condition (i.e., psychoeducation training). This study is single blind, meaning the participants will not know which condition they are assigned to. Prospective participants will first complete a brief screening questionnaire online via Qualtrics to determine their eligibility for the study. Those determined to be eligible will then complete an electronic informed consent document. After completing the informed consent, participants will be randomly assigned by a computer to a training condition and training date. They will then attend their assigned in-person training. At their in-person visit, participants will complete three questionnaires via Qualtrics and two pre-training brief interactive tasks. Participants will then participate in their training. Immediately following the training, participants will complete three questionnaires via Qualtrics and two post-training brief interactive tasks.

5.2 Provide a description of all research procedures being performed and when they are performed.

Potential participants will learn about the study either by reading a short description of it on SONA (Appendix A) or by viewing an advertisement (flyer, social media post, etc.; Appendix B). Prospective participants will either click a link (SONA) or scan a QR code (advertisements) to access the online eligibility screener through Qualtrics, which will ask various eligibility questions and require an email address for future contact (Appendix C). Participant responses on the eligibility screener will be assessed by the graduate student investigator to determine which participants are eligible. Ineligible participants will be emailed within 24 hours to inform them that they are ineligible. Eligible participants will be emailed a link to another Qualtrics survey in which they will complete the electronic consent form (Appendix D). Once participants provide consent, they will be randomly assigned to a training condition and date by a computer and will be notified by email by the graduate student investigator. Participants will receive reminder emails one week before and one day before their training.

When participants arrive for their in-person training, they will immediately be given a unique identification number on a piece of paper that will be used to identify their study materials throughout the training. They will then scan a QR code and complete three pre-training measures online via Qualtrics (Appendix E). Participants will then complete the two pre-training interactive tasks (i.e., roleplay and coding exercises). They will interact with a pre-recorded video for the roleplay task and will view a pre-recorded video and tally codes on the CARE coding form (Appendix F) for the coding task. Participants' roleplay task will take place in individual rooms and will be audio and video recorded utilizing a built-in secure recording software at the Auburn University Psychological Services Center (AUPSC), which is housed in Cary Hall on Auburn University's campus. The videos will be saved onto a secure recording computer within the AUPSC. Approximately half of the participants will do the roleplay first and approximately half will do the coding exercise first, with the order being counterbalanced when they do their post-training tasks to control for measurement effects. After these pre-training tasks, participants will engage in the training. Each training will be facilitated by this study's PI, graduate student investigator, and several clinical psychology doctoral students at Auburn University. After the training, participants will complete two post-training



interactive tasks (i.e., roleplay and coding exercise) in counterbalanced order. They will then scan a QR code to complete three post-training measures online via Qualtrics (Appendix G). Once all measures are complete, an \$85 Amazon gift card will be raffled to one randomly selected participant. After the raffle, participants will indicate whether they wish to receive SONA credit for their participation or \$15. Depending on which compensation method they choose, participants will either sign a sheet with their name and email address so that credit can be assigned on SONA or will sign a logbook and be given \$15 in cash.

After the in-person training is completed, the undergraduate research assistants (URAs) and graduate students will collect coding sheets and store them in a locked filing cabinet in the Parent-Child Lab in Cary Hall for later use. The graduate student investigator will export all roleplay recordings to a secure Box folder via a password protected secure USB drive. All data from Qualtrics will be securely stored on Qualtrics until exported to an SPSS file by the graduate student investigator.

Immediately after each training is complete, the roleplay recordings will be exported from the AUPSC recording computer to a secure Box folder accessible by the graduate student investigator only. They will then be deleted from the AUPSC recording computer. Within one month following each training's completion, participant roleplay recordings will be randomly assigned by the graduate student investigator to URA coding pairs. Assigned roleplay recordings will be moved to separate secure Box folders for each respective coding pair. Coding pairs will also be randomly assigned to calculate participant interrater reliability from participants' coding exercise sheets to measure participant coding reliability changes from pre- to post-training. The coding pairs will enter their codes from the roleplay exercises and participants' interrater reliability from the coding exercises into an Excel spreadsheet. The graduate student helpers may assist the URAs with coding should they require additional assistance. All coding by the URAs will be completed in-person at the Parent-Child Lab in Cary Hall.

All participant data obtained from this study will be retained for a maximum of five years (see Banking Data section). Paper files (i.e., coding sheets) will be stored in a locked filing cabinet, while electronic files (i.e., recordings, databases) will be stored in a secure AU Box folder.

5.3 If you are proposing collecting research data on pre-existing standard operating procedures, programs, classroom activities, etc., please distinguish between (as applicable): (a) what (if any) additional procedures participants would engage in that are solely for research purposes and (b) the components of the non-research procedures (i.e., standard practice in that program, classroom) from which you will collect data and/or observations.

☒ Select if section 5.3 is not applicable to your research project because you are not collecting research data on pre-existing activities.

5.4 Describe all data that will be collected during the study and how those data will be obtained. Distinguish between: (a) data collected from research-specific study procedures, (b) observation/data collected from standard operation procedures, programs, classroom activities, etc., and/or (c) data



obtained from pre-existing source records (e.g., medical records, academic records, etc.), as applicable.

All data will be collected from research-specific study procedures.

Appendix C: Eligibility Screener (Online, pre-training)

Eligibility data: whether participants are at least 18 years old, whether participants identify as female, whether participants are fluent in English, whether participants are currently enrolled as an undergraduate student at Auburn University, whether participants currently or within the past year have worked with children, and whether participants are available on Friday afternoons to attend an in-person training on one of six randomly assigned dates (October 2nd, 16th, 23rd, 30th; November 6th, 13th). Participants will also provide their email address so they can be contacted to notify them of their eligibility status for the study.

This data will be obtained online through a Qualtrics survey. The surveys completed by eligible participants will be securely stored on Qualtrics and will be retained as part of the study's data. The surveys completed by ineligible participants will remain securely stored on Qualtrics until data collection is complete. Ineligible participant eligibility surveys will not be retained as part of the study's data. Ineligible participants will also not be contacted again after the email letting them know they are ineligible, and the email addresses they provided will not be retained.

Appendix D: Informed Consent (Online, pre-training)

The study's informed consent will be obtained from eligible participants via an online Qualtrics survey. At the end of the consent process, participants will have the option to download their consent document from Qualtrics. Qualtrics will also automatically email participants a copy of their signed consent form.

Appendix E: Pre-Training Qualtrics Measures (In-person, pre-training)

Demographics Survey: participant age, gender, race/ethnicity, college major, current college standing (e.g., freshman), most recent GPA, why participants have chosen to participate in this training.

Situational Motivation Scale (SIMS): 16-item survey asking participants to rate their current motivation for participating in the training.

CARE Quiz: 15-item quiz assessing participant knowledge of CARE principles.

This data will be obtained online through a Qualtrics survey that participants will take when they arrive for their in-person training. The data will be stored securely on Qualtrics until it is exported to an SPSS file by the graduate student investigator.

Appendix F: Coding Sheets (In-person, pre-training and post-training)

CARE skills roleplay exercise: Undergraduate research assistants (URAs) will use these coding sheets to code participants' statements as participants interacted with pre-recorded roleplay video. URAs will watch recordings of participant roleplay exercises to code them.

CARE skills coding exercise: Participants will watch a pre-recorded video of an adult and child interacting and will use these coding sheets to tally their codes. These coding sheets will be collected from participants by the URAs and graduate student helpers and will be stored in a locked filing cabinet. The coding sheets will be identified by each



participants' unique identification number, and only the graduate student investigator will be able to tie their identification number to their real name.

This data will be obtained at both pre-training and post-training during participants' in-person visit.

Appendix G: Post-Training Qualtrics Measures (In-person, post-training)

Situational Motivation Scale (SIMS; Guay et al., 2000): 16-item survey asking participants to rate their current motivation for participating in the training.

CARE Quiz: 15-item quiz assessing participant knowledge of CARE principles.

Satisfaction Survey: 10-item survey assessing participants' satisfaction with their training.

This data will be obtained online through a Qualtrics survey that participants will take after their training is completed. The data will be stored on Qualtrics until it is exported to an SPSS file by the graduate student investigator.

- 5.5 *If there are plans for long-term follow-up (once all research related procedures are complete), what data will be collected during this period.*

There are no plans for long-term follow-up.

- 5.6 *If there are plans to use an Artificial Intelligence (AI) tool, please outline those.*

☒ *Select if section 5.6 is not applicable to your research project*

- 5.7 *Outline any plans to use AU student records for this project, including how you plan to access the data, and if you have the rights to the data as part of your role as the course instructor. If your research involves AU students' records, the AU Registrar must review the use of these data in the research for compliance with FERPA. Use of AU student records must comply with the [Policy on Confidentiality of Data](#) and [What is the Applicability of FERPA in my Research Study](#). Per AU Registrar's requirements, please indicate the type of FERPA research being conducted (please select all that apply).*

☒ *Select if section 5.7 is not applicable to your research project*

☐ **Institutional Evaluation/Assessment:** Data to compute metrics/performance indicators to support university strategic planning and decision-making, college/departmental planning, and program review.

☒ **Academic Research:** Academic research is intended for theses, dissertations, publication, conference presentations, or other similar method of distributing results externally

This project is academic research (i.e., dissertation). However, there are no plans to use any AU student records for the project.

6.0 Banking Data and/or Specimens



6.1 List the data to be stored or associated with each specimen

De-identified participant data will be retained for a maximum of five years following the completion of the study for potential future use by graduate students in the clinical psychology Ph.D. program within the Department of Psychological Sciences. This data will be completely de-identified and will consist of the coding sheets used by the URAs to code participants' verbalizations during the roleplay tasks, participants' coding sheets from the coding exercise, participant demographic information, participants' Situational Motivation Scale (SIMS) responses, participants' CARE quiz responses and scores, and participants' Satisfaction Survey responses. The audio and video recordings obtained from participants during their roleplay tasks will also be retained for a maximum of five years should the current study's PI and graduate student investigator need to answer clarifying questions from the graduate student's dissertation committee or potential future journal reviewers. These recordings will only be accessible by the current study's PI and graduate student investigator. Future graduate student researchers, dissertation committee members, and future journal reviewers will not be able to view these recordings.

6.2 If data or specimens will be banked for future use, describe where the specimens will be stored, how long they will be stored, how the specimens will be accessed, and who will have access to the specimens.

The data described above will be retained for five years from the date it was collected. All electronic data will be stored securely on AU Box within an SPSS file. All paper forms (i.e., coding sheets) will be stored in a locked filing cabinet within the Parent-Child Lab in Cary Hall on campus. Participants' roleplay recordings will be stored on a secure AU Box folder only accessible by the current study's PI and graduate student investigator.

6.3 Describe the procedures to release data or specimens, including: the process to request a release, approvals required for release, who can obtain data or specimens (e.g., other researchers, the participants themselves regarding their own data), and the data to be provided with specimens.

The data described above, with the exception of the roleplay recordings, will only be able to be accessed by graduate students in the clinical psychology Ph.D. program within the Department of Psychological Sciences at Auburn University. These students must work directly with and be supervised by the current study's PI (Dr. Brestan Knight) to access the data. The roleplay recordings will not be made accessible for any future researchers or other personnel.

7.0 Setting

7.1 Describe the sites or locations where your key personnel will conduct the research.

- *Identify where research procedures will be performed.*
- *Describe the composition and involvement of any community advisory board, when applicable.*



To determine their eligibility to participate, prospective participants will complete a brief screener online via Qualtrics. The Qualtrics survey can be accessed from any physical location and any electronic device (e.g., cell phone, computer) with stable Internet connection. The in-person portion of this study will take place in Cary Hall, which is on Auburn University's campus. The training will occur in either Cary Hall rooms 158, 181, or 202, depending on room availability on the dates of training. In-person data collection may also take place in Cary Hall rooms 140, 141, 142, 145, 146, 147, 149, 151, 154, 167, 158, 168, 170, 181, and/or 202. Cary Hall is located on Auburn University's campus. In-person data collection will be comprised of Qualtrics surveys, which can be accessed from any electronic device, and physical paper coding forms.

8.0 Resources Available

8.1 *Describe the resources available to conduct the research: For example, as appropriate:*

- *Describe the time that you will devote to conducting and completing the research.*

This study will take place during the Fall 2026 semester. If more participants are needed to gather a sufficient sample size, it will extend to the Spring 2027 semester.

- *Describe your facilities.*

All of the in-person activities for this study will take place in Cary Hall on Auburn University's campus. Cary Hall is used by the Department of Psychological Sciences and contains the Auburn University Psychological Services Center (AUPSC), several faculty offices, and various lab spaces. Cary Hall room 158 is a lecture hall and Cary Hall rooms 181 and 202 are conference rooms. Cary Hall rooms 140, 141, 142, 145, 146, 147, 149, 151, 154, 167, 168, and 170 are within the AUPSC and are used for client sessions. Notably, the in-person portions of this study will occur while the AUPSC is closed, ensuring that participants do not encounter any of the AUPSC's therapy or assessment clients.

- *Describe the availability of medical or psychological resources that Participants might need as a result of an anticipated consequence of the human research.*

Medical and psychological resources are not expected to be required as a result of this research.

- *Describe your process to ensure that all key personnel assisting with the research are adequately informed about the protocol, the research procedures, and their duties and functions.*

Beyond the PI and graduate student investigator, three clinical psychology doctoral students and several undergraduate research assistants (URAs) within the Department of Psychological Sciences at Auburn University will be involved in this study. The graduate students will assist in delivering the content of each training by presenting didactic materials, facilitating roleplay activities, and providing direct feedback to participants' usage of learned skills. The URAs have attended weekly-to-biweekly research meetings with the graduate student investigator since 2025. The URAs will



provide logistical support by guiding participants to rooms, starting and stopping recording equipment, and gathering participant coding sheets and immediately storing them in a secure location. Some URAs will be selected to code participant videos and calculate participant coding reliability based on their demonstrated competency with this project's coding system, the Dyadic Parent-Child Interaction Coding System (DPICS; Eyberg et al., 2013). The graduate students have also been trained in the DPICS and may assist URAs with coding should they need it.

9.0 Sharing of Results with Participants

☒ Select if section 9.0 is not applicable to your research project because results will not be shared with research participants.

10.0 Study Timelines

10.1 Describe the duration anticipated to enroll all study Participants. (How long will the study be open to enrollment to meet the recruitment goals?)

The study will be open for enrollment during the Fall 2026 semester and potentially the Spring 2027 semester should a sufficient number of participants not enroll during the Fall 2026 semester. The Fall 2026 training dates will be October 2nd, 16th, 23rd, 30th; November 6th, 13th.

10.2 The duration of an individual Participant's participation in the study.

The brief eligibility screener should take participants no longer than 10 minutes to complete online via Qualtrics. The electronic informed consent process should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete online via Qualtrics. The in-person portion of the study is expected to last approximately three-and-a-half hours. In total, it is anticipated that participants will spend approximately four hours participating in this study.

11.0 Participant Population

11.1 Describe the specific inclusion criteria for the participants in your study. (i.e., Who exactly will be included/What criteria will you use to enroll participants?)

Participants will be included if they are age 18 or older, identify as female, are fluent in English, are currently enrolled as an undergraduate student at Auburn University, currently work with children in any capacity or have worked with children within the past year, are able to attend an in-person training on Auburn University's campus, and are available to attend an in-person training on one of the dates described in the eligibility screener (Appendix C). Participants' training date will be randomly assigned to them following their consent.

Regarding the all-female inclusion criteria, only participants identifying as female will be recruited, based on recommendations from the graduate student investigator's dissertation committee as well as precedence from previous CARE training studies. Specifically, the committee recommended implementing circumscribed and specific



eligibility criteria to support the study's smaller sample size and the power required for statistical analyses. They also recommended this all-female criterion so that training effects are more easily detected and therefore more applicable for subsequent implementation studies of CARE in other populations. To that end, many previous studies examining CARE trainings tend to have female overrepresentation in their samples (e.g., Kiefer et al., 2025, with 97% female; Kiely et al., 2024, with 94% female; Messer et al., 2018, with 90% female), with one study from our own research lab having nearly 96% female participation (Jimenez, 2020).

11.2 Describe any exclusion criteria for participating in your study. (e.g., Who will be specifically excluded/what criteria would cause you to exclude that participant?)

Participants will be included if they are younger than age 18, do not identify as female, are not fluent in English, are not currently enrolled as an undergraduate student at Auburn University, do not currently work with children or have not worked with children within the past year, are unable to attend an in-person training on Auburn University's campus, and are not available to attend an in-person training on one of the dates described in the eligibility screener (Appendix C).

11.3 For NIH funded research, include information regarding the inclusion of women and minority populations, or include a justification for the exception to the NIH policy.

☒ Select if this section is not applicable to your research project because your research is not NIH funded.

12.0 Vulnerable Populations (See available [Checklist](#) within Endeavor)

12.1 Indicate specifically whether you will include or exclude any of the following special populations: (You may not include members of these populations as Participants in your research unless you include them in the description of your Participant population.) **One box must be selected for each population.**

- Adults unable to consent
 - ☐ Included ☒ Excluded
- Individuals who are not yet adults (infants, children, teenagers)
 - ☐ Included ☒ Excluded
- Pregnant women
 - ☐ Included ☒ Incidentally included ☐ Excluded
- Prisoners
 - ☐ Included ☒ Excluded

12.2 If the research involves individuals who are vulnerable to coercion or undue influence, describe additional safeguards included to protect their rights and welfare.



- *If the research involves AU Students, ensure you have provided sufficient information on how the researcher will minimize coercion and undue influence.*

AU students will be recruited for this study. Coercion and undue influence will be minimized by making participation in the study entirely optional, permitting participants to terminate their involvement in the study with no penalty, and allowing participants who wish to leave the in-person training early to still receive full compensation.

13.0 Local Number of Participants

13.1 Indicate the total number of Participants to be accrued, if known. If applicable, provide a sample size justification based on existing literature, power analysis, or other applicable methods.

We conducted a power analysis using G*Power (Erdfelder et al., 1996; Faul et al., 2007) to determine the number of participants needed. Per this power analysis, a total sample size of 36 participants (18 per condition) would be required to detect a sufficiently powered effect. However, given the high rate of attrition associated with a previous CARE study with undergraduates (Groh, 2024), we will overrecruit participants for each condition such that we will aim to recruit 54 participants total (27 per condition) who attend the in-person trainings.

We aim to hold six in-person trainings total (assuming that a sufficient number of participants attend in-person for all six trainings), with nine participants per training. We will potentially hold additional trainings should 36 participants in total not attend across all six trainings.

14.0 Recruitment Methods and Compensation (See available [Worksheets](#) within Endeavor)

14.1 Describe when, where, and how potential Participants will be recruited. If applicable, describe procedures for oral or written communication with the prospective participant or legally authorized representative that will be done for purposes of screening or recruiting prior to the informed consent process, including methods that will be used to determine eligibility.

Participants will be recruited during the Fall 2026 semester and possibly the Spring 2027 semester should a sufficient number of participants not enroll during the Fall 2026 semester. Recruitment methods will consist of physical flyers posted in public areas on Auburn University's campus and social media advertisements (Appendix B). These flyers may also be distributed by lab personnel to undergraduate research assistants in child-facing research labs within the Department of Psychological Sciences, as well as by professors to students in various child-related departments. The advertisements will include an email address that they may contact for more information and a QR code that will take potential participants to an eligibility questionnaire on Qualtrics. Recruitment will also take place over SONA where the purpose of the study, a brief explanation of the procedures, the time requirement, and the amount of extra credit granted for participation will be listed. The Auburn University SONA system is used to advertise



ongoing studies to undergraduate students who can enroll for extra credit in eligible courses.

14.2 Once potential participants are identified, describe the methods that will be used to determine eligibility

Individuals who email, scan the QR code, or express interest in the study via SONA will be directed to the screener questionnaire. Participants who are deemed ineligible by the screener questionnaire will be informed within 24 hours that they are ineligible. Ineligible participant surveys will be stored on Qualtrics for the duration of data collection but will not be retained as part of the study's data after data collection is complete. Participants who are deemed eligible will be contacted to complete the electronic informed consent process via Qualtrics. The eligibility surveys completed by eligible participants will be securely stored on Qualtrics and will be retained as part of the study's data.

*14.3 Describe materials that will be used to recruit Participants. Review [HRP-315 - WORKSHEET - Advertisements](#) to ensure that you have provided sufficient information and are compliant with the requirements for research advertisements. **Attach copies of these documents within the "Recruitment materials" section of the Endeavor application.** For advertisements, attach the final copy of the printed advertisements (e.g., flier, social media post). When advertisements are taped for broadcast, attach the final audio/video tape. You may submit the wording of the advertisement prior to taping to preclude re-taping because of inappropriate wording, provided the IRB reviews the final audio/video tape.*

Participants eligible for extra credit through SONA will be recruited online through Auburn's SONA platform (Appendix A). They will read a short description of the study on SONA and, if interested, will be directed to click an attached link and complete an online eligibility survey through Qualtrics (Appendix C). Participants' eligibility will be determined by the graduate student investigator based on their survey responses. They will be notified within 24 hours of their eligibility status. Eligible participants will then be directed to complete an informed consent Qualtrics survey and will be provided with further details regarding their participation (Appendix D).

Participants will also be recruited through advertisements (Appendix B). Advertisements will include physical flyers posted in public areas around campus and community and digital social media posts on Facebook and Instagram. Participants viewing these advertisements will be directed to scan a QR code and complete the eligibility survey online via Qualtrics (Appendix C). They can also email the graduate student investigator, whose email will be included, if they have questions about the study. Participants' eligibility will be determined by the graduate student investigator based on their survey responses. They will be notified within 24 hours of their eligibility status. Eligible participants will then be directed to complete an informed consent Qualtrics survey and will be provided with further details regarding their participation (Appendix D).

Participants will also be recruited by having professors in various departments distribute study flyers to their classes and students. These departments will include: Psychological Sciences; Curriculum and Teaching; Special Education, Rehabilitation, and Counseling; Human Development and Family Science; Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work; Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences; College of Nursing. Professors will be



provided with the flyer (Appendix B) electronically. Additionally, flyers will be distributed to undergraduate research assistants working in child-facing labs within the Department of Psychological Sciences. Notably, in order to enroll in the study, students will have to complete the SONA or Qualtrics signup on their own time on their own device and browser (i.e., participants will not sign up in front of their professors, and professors and lab personnel will have no way of knowing who has signed up for the study).

14.4 Justify the feasibility of recruiting the required number of suitable Participants within the agreed recruitment period. For example, how many potential Participants do you have access to? What percentage of those potential Participants do you need to recruit?

We conducted a power analysis using G*Power (Erdfelder et al., 1996; Faul et al., 2007) informed by our data analytic plan. Per this power analysis, a total sample size of 36 participants (18 per condition) would be required to detect a sufficiently powered effect. However, given the high rate of attrition associated with a previous CARE study with undergraduates (Groh, 2024), we will overrecruit participants for each condition such that we will aim to recruit 54 participants total (27 per condition) who attend the in-person trainings.

14.5 Describe the amount, timing, and method of any payments or other compensation (i.e. extra credit, in-kind items, gifts) to Participants. Review [HRP-316 - WORKSHEET – Payments](#) to ensure that you have provided sufficient information and are compliant with the requirements for research payments. If research participants will receive compensation, BEFORE you submit your application for IRB review, become familiar with AU Procurement and Business Services (PBS) [Human Participant Incentives Policy - Human Participant Incentives Policy](#).

Participants will choose their preferred method of compensation: either 3.5 SONA credits (only for participants enrolled in eligible classes) or \$15 cash. SONA credits will be awarded within 24 hours after a participant's training is completed. For participants choosing to be paid in cash, they will receive \$15 at the end of the in-person training. Participants who attend part of the in-person training but leave early for any reason will still be compensated in full. Additionally, participants who stay until the end of the training will have the opportunity to win an \$85 Amazon gift card via raffle. The randomly selected winner of the gift card will receive it at the end of the training. Participants receiving cash will sign a receipt log upon payment.

15.0 Withdrawal of Participants

☒ Select if section 15.0 is not applicable to your research project because withdrawal of subjects without their consent is not anticipated, all data collected are de-identified/anonymous, or the study is limited to the analysis of pre-existing data.

16.0 Risks to Participants and Procedures to Minimize Risk

16.1 List the reasonably foreseeable risks, discomforts, hazards, or inconveniences to the Participants related to the Participants' participation in the research. Include as may be useful for the IRB's consideration, a



description of the probability, magnitude, duration, and reversibility of the risks. Consider physical, psychological, social, legal, and economic risks. When applicable, please add the emergency action plan to the “Other attachments” section of the Endeavor application.

The risks associated with this study are minimal but could include a risk of breach of confidentiality, risk to privacy, and risk of discomfort. Given the nature of using audio and video recordings for two of the interactive tasks, participants’ faces and voices will be captured, which means that participants’ confidentiality could be breached. To minimize the risk of breach of confidentiality, the audio and video recordings of participant interactive tasks will only be accessible by the principal investigator, graduate student investigator, and assigned undergraduate research assistants who have completed mandatory privacy and research security trainings. These recordings will also be protected by being stored on a secure, password-protected AU Box folder accessible only by the personnel listed above. Additionally, participants may feel discomfort, and their privacy may be risked, when asked to participate in role-plays with other participants and trainers during their training. To minimize the risk to privacy and discomfort during training role-plays with other participants and trainers, participants will be assured at the beginning of their training that their participation in role-plays is optional, and their decision to not participate will not affect their status as a trainee or the quality of training that they will receive.

16.2 If applicable, indicate which procedures may have risks to the Participants that are currently unforeseeable due to the use of novel or untested research procedures or test articles.

☒ *Select if section 16.0 is not applicable to your research project*

16.3 If applicable, indicate which procedures may have risks to an embryo or fetus should the Participant be or become pregnant.

☒ *Select if section 16.3 is not applicable to your research project*

16.4 If applicable, describe risks to others who are not Participants.

☒ *Select if section 16.4 is not applicable to your research project*

16.5 If applicable, describe Procedures performed to lessen the probability or magnitude of risks.

☒ *Select if section 16.5 is not applicable to your research project*

16.6 Provisions to Monitor the Data to Ensure the Safety of Participants

☒ *Select if section 16.6 is not applicable to your research project. This section is required when research involves more than Minimal Risk to Participants.*

17.0 Provisions to Protect the Privacy Interests of Participants

17.1 Describe the steps that will be taken to protect Participants’ privacy interests. “Privacy interest” refers to a person’s desire to place limits on whom they interact or whom they provide personal information.

Participants’ responses on measures completed through Qualtrics will be confidential and will not be viewed by anyone other than the PI and graduate student investigator.



They will also be de-identified once exported into SPSS from Qualtrics. Due to the in-person nature of the trainings, participants will interact with study personnel, including graduate students and URAs. Study personnel are required to keep all information related to the study, including participant information and data, strictly confidential. All key personnel have completed CITI trainings.

17.2 Describe what steps you will take to make the Participants feel at ease with the research situation in terms of the questions being asked and the procedures being performed. "At ease" does not refer to physical discomfort, but the sense of intrusiveness a Participant might experience in response to questions, examinations, and procedures.

☒ *Select if section 17.2 is not applicable to your research project because the study does not involve collection of sensitive information or data are collected online or data are collected in a private setting.*

17.3 Indicate how key personnel are permitted to access information about the Participants.

Due to the in-person nature of the study, key personnel may interact with participants directly. Additionally, the URAs who are coding participant roleplay videos will be able to view the participants on video. Participants will not provide any identifying information while engaged in the roleplay exercise; however, their face will be visible on the recording. To minimize how many URAs view participant recordings, only two URAs will be able view any given participants' roleplay video (i.e., they will only be able to view the videos assigned to them in their secure Box folder and will not have access to other participant videos on Box). Furthermore, the URAs will have access to participant coding sheets from the coding exercise. However, these coding sheets will not have any identifying information on them other than their participant identification code assigned at the beginning of training. In addition to the URAs, the graduate student helpers may assist with coding videos should additional help be required. All data obtained via Qualtrics will only be accessible by the PI and graduate student investigator.

18.0 Potential Benefits to Participants

18.1 Describe the potential benefits that individual Participants may experience from taking part in the research. Include as may be useful for the IRB's consideration, the probability, magnitude, and duration of the potential benefits. This does not include monetary compensation for participation in the study.

Participants who engage in this study will have the opportunity to learn and develop beneficial and effective child interaction skills that they can apply in their personal and professional lives.

19.0 Data Management and Confidentiality

19.1 Describe the data analysis plan, including any statistical procedures.



All statistical tests will be run using IBM SPSS Statistics. Multilevel modeling (MLM) will be used to examine group differences in skills acquisition, coding reliability, and knowledge of CARE principles. Multiple linear regressions will be used to investigate the predictive effects of motivation on skills acquisition at post-training. A multiple linear regression will also be used to examine the predictive effects of motivation on post-training satisfaction, with a moderation analysis being conducted to see if training group moderates the relationship.

19.2 Describe the steps that will be taken to secure the data (e.g., training, authorization of access, password protection, encryption, physical controls, certificates of confidentiality, and separation of identifiers and data) during storage, use, and transmission. Please review the [Data Storage Matrix](#). Add any data management or security plans that have been executed as an appendix to this document.

All data will be available only to specified research personnel who are knowledgeable of human subjects protection guidelines. All data except the roleplay exercise recording will be de-identified. Participants will not provide any identifying information while engaged in the roleplay exercise; however, their face will be visible on the recording. Once the participant's verbalizations on the recordings are coded by select URAs, the URAs' access to the AU Box folder containing their recordings will be removed.

Some data will be collected via Qualtrics. Qualtrics maintains data behind a firewall. Qualtrics is designed in a way that data collection and transmission is meaningless without the interpretation of your individual account. In addition, Qualtrics offers Transport Layer Security (TLS) encryption (HTTPS) and survey security options like password protection and HTTP referrer checking. All data is accessed only by the owner of the survey who must provide a user ID and password. All pieces of data are keyed to that owner identification and cannot be accessed by anyone else. Participants will scan a QR code to access the survey. Qualtrics has been used by government agencies, hundreds of universities, and students writing theses. Some of these studies have involved human subjects, including disadvantages and at-risk populations, such as government sponsored studies collecting data about physical and dependency abuse for adults and children. In addition, Qualtrics has been purchased and adopted by the Auburn University College of Liberal Arts as one of their primary Internet survey software programs. Apart from Qualtrics surveys, some data will be collected in physical copies. These forms will be stored behind three secure locks (i.e., locked filing cabinet with its key in a different locked filing cabinet behind a locked door) in the Parent-Child Lab in Cary Hall on Auburn University's campus.

When participants arrive for their in-person training, they will be assigned a unique identification number on a piece of paper that they will keep with them throughout the duration of the training. They will input this number when they begin their Qualtrics surveys and write it on their paper coding sheets so these sheets can be identified after the training concludes. This identification number will not be tied to the participant's actual identity in any way. Participant consent forms, which will include their names and signatures, will be stored electronically on a secure Box folder after being exported from Qualtrics and will be retained until the conclusion of the study.

19.3 Describe any procedures that will be used for quality control of collected data. (For example, attention check questions, checks for reported values



outside of a reasonable range, process to have secondary checks for recorded values, duplicated response checks, or inclusion of a lie scale.)

All questions on the Qualtrics surveys will be forced choice, meaning that participants cannot advance to the next screen until they answer all items. This will help to reduce the likelihood of missing data and ensure that participants are answering every item. Additionally, participant roleplay videos and coding exercises will be viewed and coded by trained URAs who have consistently demonstrated interrater reliability with an expert coder.

19.4 Describe how data or specimens will be handled study-wide:

- *What information will be included in that data or associated with the specimens?*
- *Where and how data or specimens will be stored?*
- *How long the data or specimens will be stored?*
- *Who will have access to the data or specimens?*
- *Who is responsible for receipt or transmission of the data or specimens?*
- *How data or specimens will be transported?*

During each training: Participant roleplay exercises will be video and audio recorded. These recordings will be directly saved to a secure recording computer within the Auburn University Psychological Services Center (AUPSC). Participants who indicated on their electronic informed consent that they do not wish to be recorded will not be recorded during their roleplay exercises. Participants will use paper coding sheets to complete the pre- and post-training coding exercises, which will be collected by URAs and stored in a locked filing cabinet in the AUPSC. Participants will complete other measures via a Qualtrics survey link, and that data will be stored securely on Qualtrics.

Immediately following each training's completion: The roleplay recordings will be exported from the AUPSC recording computer to a secure Box folder accessible by the graduate student investigator only. They will then be deleted from the AUPSC recording computer.

Within one month following each training's completion: Participant roleplay recordings will be randomly assigned by the graduate student investigator to URA coding pairs. Assigned roleplay recordings will be moved to separate secure Box folders for each respective coding pair. Coding pairs will also be randomly assigned to calculate participant interrater reliability from participants' coding exercise sheets. The coding pairs will enter their codes from the roleplay exercises and participants' interrater reliability from the coding exercises into an Excel spreadsheet. The graduate student helpers may assist the URAs with coding should they require additional assistance. Participant data from Qualtrics will be exported to an SPSS file by the graduate student investigator.

After coding is completed by URAs: All participant data obtained from this study will be retained for a maximum of five years (see Banking Data section). Paper files (i.e., coding sheets) will be stored in a locked filing cabinet, while electronic files (i.e., recordings, databases) will be stored in a secure AU Box folder.



19.5 For studies involving data generated by AI technology, describe:

- Metrics or methods for evaluating AI performance.
- Plans for training and oversight of investigators, staff, and subjects interacting with AI.
- Data sharing, storage, and use related to AI, including any limitations on data removal.

☒ Select if this section is not applicable to your research project because the study does not include data generated by AI technology.

20.0 Compensation for Research-Related Injury

☒ Select if section 20.0 is not applicable to your research project because the risks of the study are no greater than minimal risk.

21.0 Economic Burden to Participants

☒ Select if section 21.0 is not applicable to your research project because there are no costs related to the research that the participants are expected to incur.

22.0 Consent Process (See available [SOPs](#) within Endeavor)

22.1 Indicate whether you will be obtaining consent, and if so describe:

- Where the consent process will take place.
- Any process to ensure ongoing consent.
- Whether you will be following [HRP-090 - SOP - Informed Consent Process for Research](#). If not, describe:
 - The role of the individuals listed in the application as being involved in the consent process.
 - The time that will be devoted to the consent discussion.
 - Steps that will be taken to minimize the possibility of coercion or undue influence.
 - Steps that will be taken to ensure the Participant's understanding.

Participants will be recruited via SONA or other advertising materials (e.g., flyers, social media posts, etc.). Those recruited via SONA will read a brief description of the study on the SONA website and, if interested, will click a link to a Qualtrics survey in which they will determine their eligibility. Ineligible participants will be notified within 24 hours that they are ineligible. Eligible participants will then be emailed a link to another Qualtrics survey containing the study's electronic informed consent form. To proceed through the study, participants must indicate that they have read each section of the consent form and agree to participate. They will have the option to download the informed consent document at the end of the consent survey. Upon providing consent and completing the Qualtrics survey, Qualtrics will also automatically email participants a copy of their signed consent form. Once eligible participants have consented, they will be randomly assigned to a training group and date and will be informed via email. If participants do not consent to audio and video recording, their roleplay exercises will not be audio and video recorded.



22.2 For studies involving research subject interaction with AI technology, ensure the consent process:

- Clearly communicates the intended use of AI technology and any unique risks.
- Is consistent with the protocol's description of AI use.
- Addresses HIPAA authorization if PHI will be used.

☒ Select if this section is not relevant to your research because the study does not involve subject interaction with AI technology.

Non-English Speaking Participants

☒ Select if this section is not applicable to your research project because this study is not expected to enroll individuals who do not speak English.

Waiver or Alteration of Consent Process (consent will not be obtained, required information will not be disclosed, or the research involves deception)

- Review the [HRP-410 - CHECKLIST - Waiver or Alteration of Consent Process](#) to ensure you have provided sufficient information for the IRB to make these determinations.

☒ Select if this section is not applicable to your research project because written consent will be obtained from all subjects and will include all required elements of consent.

Will you use an electronic consent document? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Participants will provide their electronic informed consent on the Qualtrics informed consent survey. They will have the option to download the informed consent document at the end of the consent survey. Upon providing consent and completing the Qualtrics survey, Qualtrics will also automatically email participants a copy of their signed consent form. Participants' informed consent will be stored in a secure Qualtrics server and AU Box folder and can only be accessed by the PI and graduate student investigator.

Participants who are not yet adults (infants, children, teenagers)

☒ Select if this section is not applicable to your research project because the study will not enroll children.

Adults with Impaired Decision-Making Capacity

☒ Select if this section is not applicable to your research project because the individuals with impaired decision-making capacity will not be enrolled in the study.

Adults Unable to Consent



☒ Select if this section is not applicable to your research project because all individuals will be able to provide consent.

23.0 Process to Document Consent in Writing

23.1 Describe whether you will be following [HRP-091 - SOP - Written Documentation of Consent](#). If not, describe whether and how consent of the Participant will be documented in writing. If your research presents no more than minimal risk of harm to Participants and involves no procedures for which written documentation of consent is normally required outside of the research context, the IRB will generally waive the requirement to obtain written documentation of consent. (If you will document consent in writing, attach a consent document. If you obtain consent, but not document consent in writing, attach a consent script. Review [HRP-411 - CHECKLIST - Waiver of Written Documentation of Consent](#) to ensure that you have provided sufficient information. Use [HRP-502 - TEMPLATE CONSENT DOCUMENT](#) or [HRP-581 - TEMPLATE - Information Letter](#) to create the consent document or script.)

☒ Select if this section is not applicable to your research project because participants will provide signatures on the study consent form.

Will you use an electronic consent document? ☒ Yes ☐ No

This study involves no more than minimal risk to participants and will not involve procedures in which written documentation of consent is required outside of the research context. Consent will be obtained by participants via an electronic consent form on Qualtrics prior to their in-person training (Appendix D).

24.0 Multi-Site Research

☒ Select if section 24.0 is not applicable to your research project because all members of the study team are affiliated with Auburn University.

¹ This template satisfies AAHRPP elements 1.7.B, I.8.B, I-9, II.2. A, II.2.I, II.3.A, II.3.B, II.3.C-II.3.C.1, II.3.D-F, II.4.A, III.1.C-F, II.2.D

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Statistical Analysis Plan (SAP)

An a priori power analysis was conducted using G*Power (Erdfelder et al., 1996; Faul et al., 2007), which informed by our data analytic plan. Per this power analysis, a total sample size of 36 participants (18 per condition) would be required to detect a sufficiently powered effect. However, given the high rate of attrition associated with a previous CARE study with undergraduates (Groh, 2024), we will overrecruit participants for each condition such that we will aim to recruit 54 participants total (27 per condition) who attend the in-person trainings.

All statistical tests will be run using IBM SPSS Statistics. Multilevel modeling (MLM) will be used to examine group differences in skills acquisition, coding reliability, and knowledge of CARE principles. Multiple linear regressions will be used to investigate the predictive effects of motivation on skills acquisition at post-training. A multiple linear regression will also be used to examine the predictive effects of motivation on post-training satisfaction, with a moderation analysis being conducted to see if training group moderates the relationship.

INFORMED CONSENT DOCUMENT

(NOTE: DO NOT SIGN THIS DOCUMENT UNLESS AN IRB APPROVAL STAMP WITH CURRENT DATES HAS BEEN APPLIED TO THIS DOCUMENT.)

Title of research study: *Interacting with Children Training for Undergraduates*

Principal Investigator: *Elizabeth Brestan Knight, PhD*

KEY INFORMATION

The following is a short summary of this study to help you decide whether or not you would like to participate in this research study. More detailed information is listed later on in this form.

General Information	You are being asked to take part in a research study. This research study is voluntary, meaning you do not have to take part in it. The procedures, risks, and benefits are fully described further in this consent form.
Why am I being asked to take part in a research study?	We invite you to take part in a research study to investigate the effectiveness of a training aimed at teaching you information about how to better interact with children. You were invited as a possible participant because you are at least 18 years old, identify as female, are fluent in English, are currently enrolled as an undergraduate student at Auburn University, currently work with children or have worked with children within the past year, and are able to attend one in-person training lasting approximately 3 hours and 30 minutes on a Friday afternoon.
Purpose	The purpose of the study is to better understand how undergraduate students participate in and learn from trainings that teach child interaction information and strategies. The knowledge you may gain from training could benefit you in settings where you interact with children, such as through your job, volunteering, or parenting.
Duration & Visits	There will be a total of one in-person visit lasting approximately 3 hours and 30 minutes.
Overview of Procedures	Prior to starting the study, you will be randomly assigned to a training group and date by a computer. Regardless of your group assignment, you will be asked to attend the in-person training on the date that you were assigned. When you arrive for your training, you will complete several questionnaires online through Qualtrics as well as two interactive tasks. One of these tasks will be audio and video recorded. You will then participate in your training. After the training, you will complete several questionnaires online through Qualtrics. You will also complete the same two interactive tasks from the beginning of the training, with one of them being audio and video recorded. At the end of the training, you will choose your method of compensation (either SONA credits or \$15) and could win an \$85 Amazon gift card.
Risks	The risks associated with this study include a risk of breach of confidentiality, risk to privacy, and risk of discomfort. Given the nature of using audio and video recordings for two of the interactive tasks, your face and voice will be captured, meaning that your confidentiality could

	be breached. To minimize this risk, your audio and video recordings will be stored on a secure, password-protected AU Box folder only accessible by this study's principal investigator, graduate student investigator, and select undergraduate research assistants who have completed mandatory privacy and research security trainings. Additionally, there is a risk to your privacy and a risk of possible discomfort related to role-play exercises during the training, where you will role-play the skills that you learn with other participants and trainers. It is important to note that your participation in these role-plays is completely optional, and if you decide not to participate in the role-plays, your status as a trainee and the quality of training you receive will not be affected in any way.
Benefits	Engaging in this study may result in the development of beneficial and effective child interaction skills. The benefit to the researchers is to help improve our understanding of how undergraduate students learn and apply the content of the training.
Alternatives	The alternative is to not participate in this study.
Right to Withdraw from the Study	Your decision to be in this study is voluntary. If you decide to be in this study and then change your mind, you can leave the study at any time without penalty.
Key Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria	The key inclusion criteria for participating in this study include being at least 18 years old, identifying as female, being fluent in English, being enrolled as an undergraduate student at Auburn University, working with children currently or in the past year, and being able to attend one in-person training occurring on a Friday afternoon. The key exclusion criteria include not meeting one or more of the criteria described above.

DETAILED INFORMATION

The following is more detailed information about this study.

Why am I being invited to take part in a research study?

We invite you to take part in a research study to investigate the effectiveness of skills trainings aimed at teaching child interaction skills and strategies to undergraduate students at Auburn University. This study is being conducted by the principal investigator, Dr. Elizabeth Brestan Knight, and her graduate student, Kaitlyn Wortham, within the Department of Psychological Sciences at Auburn University. You were invited as a possible participant because you are at least 18 years old, identify as female, are fluent in English, are enrolled as an undergraduate student at Auburn University, work with children currently or in the past year, and are able to attend one in-person training occurring on a Friday afternoon on one of the dates described in the eligibility screener (October 2nd, 16th, 23rd, 30th; November 6th, 13th). You will be randomly assigned to a training date. You will be notified of your training date as soon as possible after completing this consent.

How many people will be studied?

We expect about 54 people will be in this research study in total, with each training group containing approximately 9 people.

What should I know about a research study?

- Someone will explain this research study to you.
- Whether or not you take part in the research study is up to you. You may wish to talk to your family and friends about participating in the study.
- You can choose not to take part in the study.
- You can agree to take part in the study and later change your mind.



- Your decision will not be held against you.
- You can ask all the questions you want before you decide whether you would like to take part in the study or not.

Why is this research being done?

The purpose of the study is to better understand how undergraduate students participate in and learn from skills trainings that teach child interaction skills and strategies. The knowledge you may gain from training could benefit you in settings where you interact with children, such as through your job, volunteering, or parenting. The results of this study will be used by the researchers to improve trainings for undergraduates and other populations in the future.

What will be involved if I participate?

If you decide to participate in this research study, you will be randomly assigned to a training group and date by a computer. The training you get will be chosen by chance, like drawing a name out of a hat. You will have an equal chance of being assigned to any of the trainings.

No matter what group you are assigned to, you will be asked to come in-person for your training, which will last approximately 3 hours and 30 minutes and will take place on Auburn University's campus. You will interact with other participants during your visit. When you arrive for your training, you will complete several questionnaires online through Qualtrics and participate in two interactive tasks. One of these interactive tasks will be video and audio recorded. You will then participate in the training portion of the visit. After the training portion, you will complete several questionnaires online through Qualtrics. You will also complete the same two interactive tasks from before the training began. One of these interactive tasks will be video and audio recorded.

Two of the in-person tasks will be recorded using audio and video recording devices to assist with the accuracy of your responses. The audio and video recording files will be stored only for the study period and will be permanently destroyed at the conclusion of the study by deleting the associated electronic files. Undergraduate research assistants will view these recordings. You have the right to refuse the audio and video recording. Please initial one of the following options:

- ☐ YES, I consent to audio and video recording.
- ☐ NO, I do NOT consent to audio and video recording.

How long will the research last and what will I need to do?

We expect that you will be in this research study for a total of 3 hours and 30 minutes. It involves one in-person visit, where you will complete several questionnaires online, participate in interactive tasks, and undergo a training where you will learn information about interacting with children.

Is there any way being in this study could be bad for me?

The risks associated with this study are minimal but could include a risk of breach of confidentiality, risk to privacy, and risk of discomfort. Given the nature of using audio and video recordings for two of the interactive tasks, your face and voice will be captured, meaning that your confidentiality could be breached. To minimize this risk, your audio and video recordings will be stored on a secure, password-protected AU Box folder only accessible by this study's principal investigator, graduate student investigator, and select undergraduate research assistants who have completed mandatory privacy and research security trainings. Additionally, there is a risk to your privacy and a risk of possible discomfort related to role-play exercises during the training, where you will role-play the skills that you learn with other participants and trainers. It is important to note that your participation in these role-plays is completely optional, and if you decide not to participate in the role-plays, your status as a trainee and the quality of training you receive will not be affected in any way.



Will being in this study help me in any way?

Engaging in this study may result in the development of beneficial and effective child interaction skills. The benefit to the researchers is to help improve our understanding of how undergraduate students learn and apply the content of the training.

Will I receive compensation for participating?

To compensate you for your time, you will choose whether you wish to receive \$15 or 3.5 SONA credits. **You MUST attend the in-person portion of the study to receive compensation.** Additionally, one \$85 Amazon gift card will be raffled to one participant chosen at random at the conclusion of your in-person training. If you win the raffle, you will receive your gift card before you leave your training. If you choose the \$15 compensation, you will receive this at the conclusion of your in-person training. If you choose the 3.5 SONA credits as compensation, the credits will be assigned to you within 24 hours of your in-person training.

Please note that as an Auburn University student, the monetary participant payment will be counted as a resource for the purposes of calculating your financial aid eligibility. If your total aid from all sources (federal aid, scholarships, loans, waivers, resources, etc.) exceeds the published Cost of Attendance (estimated costs for you to attend school and pay for living expenses while enrolled), then the participant payment may result in a reduction to the aid, up to the amount of the participant payment.

Important Notice About Your Participation and Compensation

You MUST be deemed eligible to participate AND attend the in-person portion of the study to receive credit. This study uses random assignment to assign participants to a training group and date. Due to the nature of random assignment, you can only be assigned to one training. If you cannot attend the date that you are assigned, you will no longer be deemed eligible to participate in the study. You will also no longer be eligible to receive compensation. As such, **ENROLLMENT IN THIS STUDY CANNOT BE GUARANTEED**, even if you do meet the initial eligibility criteria.

What happens if I do not want to be in this research?

Participation in research is completely voluntary. You can decide to participate, not participate, or discontinue participation at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. Your decision not to participate or to stop participating will not jeopardize your future relations with Auburn University or the Department of Psychological Sciences.

What happens if I say yes, but I change my mind later?

You can leave the research at any time; it will not be held against you. If you choose to withdraw, your data can be withdrawn as long as it is identifiable.

What happens to the information collected for the research?

Your privacy will be protected. Any information obtained in connection with this study will remain confidential. We will protect your privacy and the data you provide by keeping your research data and your identifying information separate, linked only by a randomly generated participant code. Only study staff will have access to your research data. Any information that we collect that could be used to identify you will be destroyed within 5 years of data collection being completed. De-identified information obtained through your participation may be used to fulfill an educational requirement, be presented at a professional meeting, or be published in a professional journal. The audio and video recordings from your interactive tasks will also be kept for 5 years, and the de-identified data obtained from the recordings may be used to fulfill an educational requirement, be presented at a professional meeting, or be published in a professional journal. However, the recordings themselves, which will show your face and voice, will be kept strictly confidential and will not be shown or distributed to



anyone outside of this study's principal investigator, graduate student investigator, and select undergraduate research assistants.

FUTURE USE OF DATA

A description of this clinical trial will be available on <http://www.ClinicalTrials.gov>, as required by U.S. Law. This website will not include information that can identify you. At most, the website will include a summary of the results. You can search this website at any time.

This study is collecting data from you. We would like to make your data available for other research studies that may be done in the future. The research may be about similar trainings as this study. However, research could also be about unrelated trainings or other types of research. These studies may be done by researchers at this institution. Our goal is to make more research possible. We plan to keep your data for five years after you attend your training. To get your data, future researchers must seek approval from this institution and review by an IRB may be required.

We will protect the confidentiality of your information to the extent possible. Your data will be coded to protect your identity before they are shared with other researchers. Only the study team will have a code key that can be used to link to your identifying information. The code key will be securely stored. We will retain your video and audio recordings from two of the interactive tasks for a maximum of five years following your training. Once these recordings are deleted, all information that could be used to identify you will also be deleted. These recordings will only be viewable by this study's key personnel and will not be retained for future possible research studies.

It is your choice whether or not to let researchers use your data for research in the future. If you say "yes," you can change your mind later. If you say "no," you can still fully participate in this study. If you change your mind and no longer wish to have us store or use your data, you should contact the investigator. We will do our best to honor your request and to get back any data that have been shared with other researchers. However, there may be times we cannot. For example, if we do not have a way to identify your data, we will not be able to get them back. In addition, if the data have already been used for new research, the information from that research may still be used. We will destroy any data we have or are able to get back.

Please initial next to your choice:

- ☐ YES, my data **may** be used in other research studies
☐ NO, my data **may not** be used in other research studies

Who can I talk to?

If you have questions, concerns, or complaints, or think the research has hurt you, please contact the principal investigator, Dr. Elizabeth Brestan Knight (brestev@auburn.edu), or her graduate student, Kaitlyn Wortham (kzw0104@auburn.edu). This research has been reviewed and approved by the Auburn University Institutional Review Board (IRB). You may contact the Auburn University IRB at (334) 844-5966 or IRBadmin@auburn.edu if:

- Your questions, concerns, or complaints are not being answered by the research team.
- You cannot reach the research team.
- You want to talk to someone besides the research team.
- You have questions about your rights as a research subject.
- You want to get information or provide input about this research.

Having read the information provided, you must decide whether or not you wish to participate in this research study. Your signature documents your permission to take part in this research. A copy of this document will be given to you to keep.



Signature of subject _____ Date _____

Printed name of subject _____ Date _____

Kaitlyn Wortham

Signature of person obtaining consent _____ Date _____

Kaitlyn Wortham, MS

Printed name of person obtaining consent _____

