

Our study will assess how dog-child interaction affects child behavior, and hormone levels. To investigate these questions, children and parents in the study will visit the Arizona Canine Cognition Center 3 times, for approximately 90-minutes each visit.

During these visits, your child would interact with your pet dog, as well as an unfamiliar dog, and would play with an assortment of toys. Each of these activities would take place on a different day. Before, during, and after each activity, we would collect a saliva sample from your child. Before and after each activity, we would ask you to collect a urine sample from your child. The purpose of collecting saliva and urine is so that we can measure hormonal changes associated with each activity in which your child participates. One of the saliva samples would also be used for a genetic analysis of a gene that is known to affect one of the hormones we are studying.

In addition to these activities, we would also ask your child to complete surveys about his or her relationship with your dog, and we would ask you to complete surveys about your child's typical interactions with the dog at home.

To compensate you for your time, we would provide you with \$40 for completing the first visit, \$50 for completing the second visit, and \$60 for completing the third visit. We would also provide your child with a small toy (~\$10 value) after each visit, to thank them for helping us with the study. The study will take place on the University of Arizona campus, and we can provide you with free parking if you decide to participate.

**Risks:** The anticipated risk for children and families are minimal. There is little likelihood of any physical risk as a result of providing saliva or urine samples. There is the potential that a child could be scratched, bitten, tripped, or otherwise hurt by a dog. There are minimal risks of psychological distress if participants are upset by reflecting on the state of their relationship with, or routine care for, their pet dog. It is also possible that some children will experience mild stress when visiting the University for data collection. Child interactions in the lab with a dog or toys will be videotaped. As faces will be visible in these recordings, it is possible that your or your child's identity could become known to others.

**Benefits:** Children and parents may benefit from knowing 1) that they are participating in a study that seeks to explore whether, and to what extent, social relationships with dogs affect human health, and 2) that these data may be used to expand human-animal interaction programs to improve the lives of other families in the future. Results from the study could also potentially improve the ways in which dogs are viewed and treated in society and increase adoption rates of homeless dogs across the country.

Please visit [https://uarizona.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bswHUPBsVOowFrn](https://uarizona.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bswHUPBsVOowFrn) to complete the eligibility survey.

Thanks for considering this opportunity!