

Part-Time Research Assistant Position at Harvard University (Dr. Elizabeth Spelke's lab)

Duties & Responsibilities: The Lab for Developmental Studies in Harvard's Psychology department has an open position for a part-time research assistant (20 hrs/week, benefitted). The RA will report directly to Elizabeth Spelke (PI) and Samuel Mehr (graduate student) on projects concerning music, temperament, and social cognition in infants. Duties will include recruiting study participants from local daycares and community centers, managing randomized controlled trials, administering surveys, and testing infants in looking time and other behavioral experiments. Based on the candidate's qualifications, additional duties may also include singing and playing musical instruments with young children and their parents, musical transcription, auditory and visual stimulus construction, audio and video editing, data management, or statistical analysis. This is a one-year position with a June 1 start date.

Qualifications: Coursework in psychology or cognitive science is required; coursework or background in music (vocal or instrumental) is a plus, though not essential. The ideal candidate will have a bachelor's degree in psychology and will have experience working directly with infant/toddler research subjects and/or teaching in a classroom or private setting. Work experience with infants and parents strongly preferred, as the ability to confidently handle both is essential. Must demonstrate an ability to pay close attention to detail and must possess excellent organizational, communication, and interpersonal skills. Must also be confident working both independently as well as with others on multiple concurrent research projects in a fast-paced environment.

Additional Information: All formal offers will be made by FAS Human Resources. This is a one-year, grant-funded position, with the possibility of renewal pending performance review and availability of funding. Applicants should send a cover letter, CV, and contact info for 1–3 references to Samuel Mehr (sam@wjh.harvard.edu), with the subject line "Spelke Lab Music RA Application."