**Lab E-Newsletter** Research in Early Autism Detection and Intervention

## READi or Not...Here we come!

During 2013, the READi Lab provided 15 free training workshops for community birth-to-three providers in 7



locations across WA State. The purpose of these workshops is to improve early identification and early intervention for children with autism or suspected autism. We trained 88 providers on the **STAT**, a play-based

autism screening tool for toddlers (that you have probably seen us use in the lab!). And 222 providers have received training in the use of RIT, a behaviorally-based intervention focused on improving children's imitation.

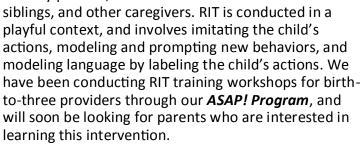
In 2014, we expect to conduct trainings in 6 new sites, mostly in central and eastern WA. We will also be providing **RIT training for parents**, so let us know if you're interested!

## What is Reciprocal Imitation Training?

Reciprocal Imitation Training (RIT) is an ABA-based intervention that was developed specifically for young children with ASD. It has a strong evidence base and has been associated with significant improvements in

children's social interactions. ioint attention, and communication.

RIT is easy to implement and can be used by parents,



Questions? Please contact us at READiLab@uw.edu or 206-616-7358.

## **Upcoming Research Projects**

We have several new research projects that will be starting up soon (see below). If you would like more information, or are interested in participating, please contact us at READiLab@uw.edu.

WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?	AGE OF CHILD?	WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?
Infant siblings of children <u>with</u> ASD <i>and</i> Infant siblings of children <u>without</u> ASD	1 month old	Whether infant learning at 1 month predicts social behavior at 3 months
Children who received a recent diagnostic evalua- tion for ASD or de- velopmental delay	24-39 months old	The effectiveness of a new, streamlined assessment for ASD
<u>Parents</u> of young children with ASD	18-48 months old	Different methods for teaching parents how to use a play-based in- tervention (RIT) with their children

## In the Spotlight:

Welcome to Lizzy Karp, a first-year graduate student of Dr. Stone's in the UW child clinical psychology program. Lizzy is a Los Angeles native who majored in psychology and theater at Skidmore College. After college, she worked in Dr. Connie Kasari's research lab at UCLA, where she taught joint

> attention skills to young children at risk for developing ASD. She has been a wonderful addition to the READi Lab!

Happy

NEW YEAR!