

Kaitlyn Testa

University of Connecticut
Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences
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Education

Florida International University

December 2024 Ph.D. Developmental Science
GPA: 3.9

Florida International University

December 2022 MS - Psychology
GPA: 3.9

Florida International University

May 2018 BA - Psychology
GPA: 3.5
Cum Laude
Honors Thesis: Maternal Depression and Social Bidding as Predictors of
Vocabulary Development in 12-Month-Old Infants

Current Position

T32 CNC-CT Postdoctoral Researcher

University of Connecticut
2025 – Present

Research Experience

Graduate Research Assistant

2019 – 2024 **PI: Lorraine Bahrack**
Infant Development Lab
Florida International University
Miami, FL

Publications

Edgar, E. V., **Testa, K.**, Ramirez, B., Cannistraci, R. A., Todd, J. T., & Bahrack, L. E. (2024). Parent wellbeing and language input predict child face-voice matching and expressive language outcomes. *Under Review*.

Testa, K., Todd, J. T., & Bahrack, L. E. (2024). Characterizing mother-infant dyadic behaviors following

infant bids for attention: Potential mechanisms for promoting infant attention control and language. *Under Review*.

Edgar, E. V., Eschman, B., Todd, J. T., **Testa, K.**, Ramirez, B., & Bahrick, L. E. (2023). The effects of socioeconomic status on working memory in childhood are partially mediated by intersensory processing of audiovisual events in infancy. *Infant Behavior & Development*, 72, 1-13.

Testa, K., McNew, M. E., Todd, J. T., Eschman, B., & Bahrick, L. E. (2023). Infant distractibility from social events mediates the relation between maternal responsiveness and infant language outcomes. *Infant Behavior & Development*, 71, 1-17.

Conference Presentations

Testa, K., Todd, J. T., & Bahrick, L. E. (2025, May). Individual differences in child distractibility from social events predicts language and cognitive outcomes. Presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Testa, K., Todd, J. T., & Bahrick, L. E. (2024, July). Maternal multimodal responses and infant language outcomes: Relations with infant distractibility from social events. Presented at the biennial meeting of the International Congress of Infant Studies, Glasgow, Scotland.

Testa, K., Edgar, E. V., Todd, J. T., & Bahrick, L. E. (2023, March). Longitudinal development of infant distractibility from social events from 3 to 36 months of age. Presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Edgar, E.V., Eschman, B., Todd, J. T., **Testa, K.**, Ramirez, B., Bahrick, L. E. (2023, March). The effects of socioeconomic status on working memory are mediated by intersensory processing in infancy. Presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Todd, J. T., Ramirez, B., **Testa, K.**, Edgar, E. V., Bahrick, L. E. (2023, March). Intersensory processing of social events mediates relations among maternal well-being, language input, and child language. Presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Testa, K., Edgar, E. V., Todd, J. T., Eschman, B., & Bahrick, L. E. (2022, July). Relations among maternal intrusiveness, infant distractibility from social events, and infant receptive language. Presented at the biennial meeting of the International Congress on Infant Studies, Ottawa, Ontario.

Testa, K., Todd, J. T., Eschman, B., Edgar, E. V., & Bahrick, L. (2021, April). Attention to distractors during social and nonsocial events: Changes across age and predicting language outcomes. Presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development (Virtual presentation).

McNew, M. E., Todd, J. T., Eschman, B., Edgar, E. V., Petrulla, V., **Testa, K.**, Ramirez, B., & Bahrack, L. E. (2021, April). Longitudinal growth in multisensory attention skills across 3 to 36 months. Presented at the biennial meeting for the Society for Research in Child Development (Virtual Presentation).

Testa, K., Todd, J. T., Edgar, E. V., Eschman, B., & Bahrack, L. E. (2020, July). Infant multisensory attention to social events predicts IQ in toddlers. Presented at the International Congress of Infant Studies, Glasgow, SCT.

Edgar, E. V., Delgado, A., **Testa, K.**, Contino, K., Todd, J. T., & Bahrack, L. E. (2019, October). The Relation Between Intersensory Processing and Diversity of Child Word Production is Moderated by Socioeconomic Status. Presented at the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology, Chicago, IL.

Contino, K., Edgar, E. V., **Testa, K.**, Delgado, A., Todd, J. T., & Bahrack, L. E. (2019, October). Intersensory Processing Skills at 12 Months Predicts Growth in Word Production Between 18 and 24 Months. Presented at the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology, Chicago, IL.

Testa, K., McNew, M. E., Todd, J. T., & Bahrack, L. E. (2019, March). Maternal Depression and Responsiveness to Social Bids as Predictors of Vocabulary Size in 12-Month-Old Infants. Presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Baltimore, MD.

Testa, K., McNew, M. E., Todd, J. T., & Bahrack, L. E. (2018, March). Maternal depression and responsivity to infant social bids as predictors of vocabulary size in 12-month-old infants. Presented at the Conference for Undergraduate Research at Florida International University.

McNew, M. E., Bahrack, L. E., Todd, J. T., **Testa, K.**, & Gomez-Lostalo, C. (2017, November). Intersensory processing in 12-month-olds is related to shared gaze to toys. Presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology, Washington D.C.

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant – Clinical Connections Spring 2025
University of Connecticut

Teaching Assistant/Lab Instructor – Research Methods 2 Spring 2024
Florida International University

Teaching Assistant/Lab Instructor – Research Methods 2 Fall 2023
Florida International University

Teaching Assistant – Research Methods 2 Summer 2023

Updated: 06/18/2025

Florida International University

Teaching Assistant/Lab Instructor – Research Methods 2 Spring 2023

Florida International University

Teaching Assistant/Lab Instructor – Research Methods 2 Fall 2022

Florida International University

Teaching Assistant – Research Methods 2 Summer 2022

Florida International University

Teaching Assistant – Children’s Learning Spring 2022

Florida International University

Teaching Assistant – Cognitive Processes Fall 2021

Florida International University

Teaching Assistant – Research Methods 2 Summer 2021

Florida International University

Teaching Assistant – Research Methods 1 Spring 2021

Florida International University

Teaching Assistant – Research Methods 2 Fall 2020

Florida International University

Teaching Assistant – Introduction to Psychology Spring 2020

Florida International University

Teaching Assistant – Research Methods I Fall 2019

Florida International University

Honors and Awards

Summer 2024 – Fall 2024	Florida International University – University Graduate School Dissertation Year Fellowship Recipient
April 2022	International Congress of Infant Studies 2022 - Graduate Travel Award Winner, \$550
June 2018	International Congress of Infant Studies 2018 - Undergraduate Travel Award Winner, \$850

Professional Affiliations

2020 – Present	International Congress of Infant Studies (ICIS)
2019 – Present	Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD)
2018 – 2019	Association for Psychological Science (APS)

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Skills and Certifications

- CITI Training (IRB Ethics Training)
- Administration and scoring of the Wechsler Preschool & Primary Scale of Intelligence (WPPSI-IV)
- Administration and scoring of the Expressive Vocabulary Test (EVT 2nd Ed)
- Administration and scoring of the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test (PPVT 4th Ed)
- Administration and scoring of Test of Preschool Early Literacy (TOPEL)
- Administration and scoring of Test of Early Mathematical Ability (TEMA)