Our collaboration

- **Connecticut Science Center, Hartford CT**
  - Mission: To inspire lifelong learning through interactive and innovative experiences that explore our changing world through science.

- **Cognitive Development Labs, Wesleyan University**
  - Research focus: How children and adults perceive, think about, and learn about numbers & math, space & time, and people.
Our team

Connecticut Science Center
Megan Dempsey
Public Programs Coordinator

Cognitive Development Labs
Hilary Barth
Associate Professor

Lab Coordinator
Alexandra Zax

Student Coordinator
Sheri Reichelson

Undergraduate Research Assistants
Aime Arroyo-Ramirez
Maxine Lai
Praise Owoyemi
Jordan Feingold-Link

Ami Sailor, Community & School Partnership Administrator

Visitor Services Staff
Joanna Paul
Ilana Ladis
Kerry Brew
Sarah Corner

Cognitive Development Labs at Wesleyan University
Our Living Lab

• History
  • Began with this partnership (also, link to JHU/Maryland)
  • Discussion began Fall 2012; first visit March 2013

• Why Living Lab?
  • Supports core goals of both organizations

• Our Living Lab
  • One 3-hr researcher visit/week, ~8 per semester/summer
  • As of April 2016: 837 participants, 741 educational opportunities, 413* research toy interactions
Our Living Lab

• Mutual Professional Development
  • Student researcher training by Megan Dempsey, Public Programs Coordinator
  • Sharing current research reports
  • Research toy interactions led by students

• Current research studies at the Living Lab
  • Children’s decision making
  • Development of spatial memory
Next steps

• In the midst of becoming a multi-site collaboration

• CogDevLabs – NSF proposal with LL components has been recommended for funding

• Greater professional development of Visitor Services staff – training on research toy activities?

• Broadening undergraduate student involvement?