Faculty mentor: Ellen Markman

Research supervisor(s) (name, position, email): Kara Weisman, graduate student, kweisman@stanford.edu

Project topic(s): Children’s developing understanding of consciousness and other minds

Brief description of scientific issues: Our current studies aim to address how children reason about the social world based on their interactions with people or objects (e.g. robots). For instance, how do children’s interactions with intelligent and social technologies affect their general understanding of concepts like consciousness? How do children think about the "mental lives" of non-human animals?

Skills required:

willingness to work with children; interest in psychology, cognitive science, and/or philosophy

Skills to be learned: research design and data collection for developmental studies; basic data analysis; how to conduct a literature review; how to present and communicate results to others

Can be full time or part time (flexible according to the student’s interests)

Contact person (with email): Kara Weisman, kweisman@stanford.edu