Field Testing Novel Tablet Computer Assessments of Social and Emotional Learning  
The Stanford Project on Adaptation and Resilience in Kids

Lab Website: https://web.stanford.edu/group/sparklab/

Faculty Mentor: Jelena Obradović

Time Commitment: Up to 40 hours/week for 10 weeks. May include some weekend days.

Compensation: Up to $7000

Project Description: Social and emotional learning refers to non-academic skills that are crucial for children’s success in school. We are designing a novel tablet computer app to measure social and emotional learning in elementary school students (grades K-5). These games will test students’ ability to delay gratification, think flexibly, remember information, control behavior, tolerate frustration, persevere, and challenge themselves. Measuring these skills is crucial because they are associated with physical and mental health, educational attainment, and career success. But existing table-top assessment tools are time consuming, require extensive training, and are difficult to administer consistently. The innovative tablet-based assessment will provide an accessible, standardized, and low cost alternative for educators and researchers, and can be used in a group setting to assess many children simultaneously.

We are seeking a research assistant to pilot this app in the field (e.g., at museums, libraries, and parks in the Bay Area). The data obtained will be used to calibrate the difficulty of the apps, improve the user interface, and identify programming errors so that the apps can be used confidently to collect data from thousands of students in large scale research and evaluation projects. The research assistant will gain practical experience in lab-based and field-based research and will learn about social and emotional learning skills. This position will also include data management and analyses.

Qualifications and Skills: The ideal candidate is highly motivated, detail-orientated, and has great organization skills. Experience working with children is preferred. Having a valid driver’s license and access to a car is desirable, but not required.

To Apply: Visit http://cepa.stanford.edu/training/vpue/apply. Applications must be submitted by April 2.