

Pre-schooler MEG study Information Sheet

Thank you for your interest in the study! Here's how to prepare for your MEG experiment.

The MEG

The MEG is completely silent. Many participants comment on how relaxing it is! The MEG is completely safe and non-invasive; it passively records magnetic fields. The room is shielded to block out all magnetic fields except for those emitted by the brain.

During the experiment, your child will lie on a bed inside the MSR room with their head resting in the plastic helmet.



The MSR

The MEG recorder is housed inside a magnetically shielded room (MSR). No metal can be taken inside the MSR and you will be asked to remove metal items from yourself and your child such as keys, belt buckles, jewellery and mobile phones. Please alert the experimenter ahead of time if you or your child has any of the following as it may exclude you sitting in the MSR with your child during the experiment:

- Dental crowns, bridges, or implants
- Braces or permanent dental wires
- Non-removable retainers or dentures
- Cardiac Pacemaker/pacing wires or artificial heart valves
- Hearing aids, cochlear/ear implant, ocular/eye implant
- Other surgical implants (e.g. screws, plates, rods, shunts)
- Hip replacement, artificial joint or artificial limb
- IUD
- Non-removable jewellery (e.g. rings, body piercings)
- Other metal permanently attached to your body

Please also let the experimenter know if you have:

- Claustrophobia or are unable to be in the MSR for the length of the experiment

Participant information is kept strictly confidential.

What to Expect

- When you arrive, the experimenter will show you and your child around the lab and ask you to sign a consent form. Participation is always voluntary.
- Your child will wear a stretchy cap containing a few electrodes. We will use a digitising pen to create a digital 3D representation of the shape of your head.
- Your child will be asked to lie very still inside the MSR for the length of the experiment, while watching a silent movie of their choice.
- You can also sit with your child in the MSR.
- After the MEG recording, your child will wear some headphones to check their hearing, and play some short games.

What to Wear

Just prior to the scan we will ask you to remove all metal items. Please note you will not be able to wear the following in the MEG:

- Glasses (you may wear contact lenses). Just prior to entering the MEG we can provide you with MEG compatible glasses.
- Underwire bras or bras with metal clasps (you may wear a cloth-only bra; we have a gown should you wish to use it)
- Jewellery
- Clothing with large metal buttons or zippers (standard zippers on jeans are OK)
- Clothing with sequins, glitter, or metallic thread
- Makeup containing metal (e.g. mascara, metallic eyeshadow, glitter nail polish)

Where to Find Us

We are located at:
Level 3, The Australian Hearing Hub
16 University Avenue
Macquarie University
North Ryde NSW 2109

Parking is available in the basement of our building. We are also easily accessible by public transport. The closest train station is Macquarie University station. Bus routes also go through campus and drop off on University Avenue.

