



GODDARD SCHOOL SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN STUDY WITH YALE UNIVERSITY

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GREEN, OHIO The Goddard School® is proud to announce that it has been selected to participate in a pilot assessment program in partnership with the Yale University Child Study Center, Educational Records Bureau (ERB) and Children's Progress. A select number of Goddard Schools will work with researchers in the first stage of a comprehensive assessment program designed for children in pre-kindergarten through first grade. Unlike previous studies where only a child's analytic skills have been tested, this assessment program will examine a child's unique strengths in analytical, creative and practical abilities for the first time.

"We are delighted to be part of this unique opportunity," said Joseph Schumacher, Chief Operating Officer at Goddard Systems, Inc. "Goddard is committed to developing confident learners and improving the quality of early education. This is the first study of its kind for this age group and our participation in this new assessment offers Goddard the chance to work toward the study's goal of producing a more reliable and validated assessment program."

The first phase of field-testing will be focused on capturing children's responses to a series of items delivered on a computer via a touch screen interface. The child will respond to age-appropriate items that are engaging, interactive and kid-friendly. For instance, a child might help a character through a series of situations which have been designed to mimic a game-like environment. This phase of testing will be administered in five sessions of 30 minutes each through a series of questions developed in consultation with leaders in the field of educational research.

As this assessment program takes into account the strengths of all types of learners, the data collected can be used in independent school admissions and placement decisions to ensure that a student will be able to thrive in his or her educational environment.

"Each child is unique and the goal of this assessment program is to gain a comprehensive understanding of how different children learn," said Christopher Camacho, PhD, Director of Research at Children's Progress. "This is the first study developed for this age group to take into account analytical, creative and practical abilities on an independently completed computerized assessment. Our goal is to use this data to offer educators and admissions officers a broader picture of intelligence. We also aim to develop new creative teaching strategies based on the child's analytical, creative and practical abilities."

From Feb. 23, through June 2009, eleven Goddard schools including locations in Georgia, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Ohio, will be included in a group of approximately 30 schools across the country that will be participating in the initial round of field-testing. Schools will participate in the field-testing free of charge and participation is completely voluntary.