The pediatric physical therapy class at the University of Puget Sound needs your help.

As the students are learning about children and development, they need volunteers to play with. Below are the opportunities with description, dates, and times. If you are interested in participating in any of these days or have questions, please let me know. Feel free to share this with anyone who may be interested.

Jan 31 from 1:20-2:20 or from 3:20-4:20 On this day, the students are working on their observation skills and getting used to interacting with kids. Three small groups of students will play with each child for 15-20 minutes each. All ages of children are welcome to participate. (3 kids each)

Feb 14th from 2:00-2:40 or from 4:00-4:40 On this day, the students are learning about how sensation (vision, hearing and body awareness) effect movement. Children will get to play on our indoor swing and practice their balance. If any babies participate, I will interact with the babies while the students watch. This would include looking at how the baby’s head moves in relation to its body, looking at how the baby supports its weight, and looking at how the baby tracks and reaches for objects. All ages of children are welcome to participate. (3-4 kids each)

Feb 21st from 1:30-2:30 or from 3:30-4:30 On this day, the students are learning to examine children through play. A small group is students is assigned to each child. In the hour they will play with the child and attempt to assess the child's strength, range of motion, postural alignment, and general motor skill level. (5 kids each)

Feb 28th from 1:00-2:30 or from 3:00-4:30 On this day, the students are practicing administering a standardized test of motor development. In two large groups, under the direction of the lab instructors, students will take turns administering and scoring test items. This includes asking children to perform age appropriate motor skills. Children between the ages of 1 and 5 are welcome to participate. (2 kids each)

March 7th from 2:00-2:30 or from 4:00-4:30 On this day, the students are observing children's locomotor skills (like crawling, walking, running, galloping, or skipping). In the first 15 minutes the students will observe the children playing. In the next 15 minutes the children will play on an obstacle course that the students designed to encourage a variety of locomotor skills. As long as a child is crawling, they are welcome to participate. (As many as possible)

March 21st from 1:00-2:00 or from 3:00-4:00 On this day, the students are learning how to take a child's medical history from a parent. In this lab the students are broken into 4 groups. In the first 10 minutes, one group interviews the parent and another group plays with the child to get a feeling for how typically developing children move. Then, for the next ten minutes, the groups switch. There is a 10 minute break and the process is repeated with the next 2 groups of students. This lab often has some very young babies and parents can let us know how much interaction is okay for their child (One of the instructors can interact with the baby while the students observe, 1 or 2 students can interact with the baby while the others observe, or the group of about 6 students can freely interact with the child.) Parent and children of any age are welcome to participate. (2 families each)

If you are interested in participating in any (or all!) of these days, you can email me at jlooper@pugetsound.edu or call me at work 253 879 2895.