

**IDeA Center**  
DIPF | Leibniz Institute for Research and Information  
in Education

Rostocker Straße 6  
60323 Frankfurt am Main, Germany  
Phone + 49 (0)69 24708-134, -164  
[www.idea-frankfurt.eu](http://www.idea-frankfurt.eu)  
[info@idea-frankfurt.eu](mailto:info@idea-frankfurt.eu)

**Scientific Coordinator:** Prof. Dr. Florian Schmiedek  
**Deputy Scientific Coordinator:** Prof. Dr. Mareike Kunter  
**IDeA Coordination:** Dr. Jeanette Ziehm  
**IDeA Laboratories:** Dr. Björn Rump

The IDeA Center was founded 2008 as part of the Initiative for the Development of Scientific and Economic Excellence (LOEWE) by the state of Hesse and was financially supported until 2014. IDeA is a joint venture of the DIPF, Goethe University Frankfurt and Sigmund-Freud-Institut.



## Research Themes at the IDeA Center

- adaptive education
- assessment tools
- (neuro-)cognitive development
- early childhood education
- educational inequality
- learning disorders
- prevention
- professionalization
- psychosocial development
- risk factors
- teaching quality
- working memory

*Are you interested in cooperating with us?  
Would you like to participate in one of our studies?  
Do you need further information on research at our center?*

**Please contact us!**  
[koordination@idea-frankfurt.eu](mailto:koordination@idea-frankfurt.eu)



## IDeA Laboratories

The IDeA Center offers its researchers laboratory facilities and personnel to support a wide variety of behavioral and neurocognitive studies. The spectrum of methods used ranges from paper-and-pencil and computer-assisted cognitive tests, to eye-tracking, EEG, and functional and structural imaging (e.g., MRI, fNIRS).

The laboratories are integrated into the undergraduate education and the academic training of graduate students at the three partner institutions. Furthermore, the laboratory unit partners with educational counseling services, schools, and childcare centers to develop and evaluate training and intervention programs. The laboratory mascot "Laborius" helps researchers illustrate the methods used in their studies in a child-friendly way.



## How children learn

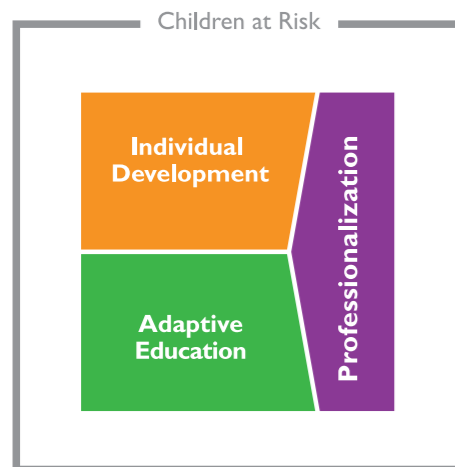
## IDeA – Individual Development and Adaptive Education

IDeA is an interdisciplinary research center with experts in the fields of psychology, educational science, psycholinguistics, neuroscience, sociology, and psychoanalysis who investigate the developmental and learning processes of children up to the age of twelve. With a specific focus on children at risk of academic failure, research at the IDeA Center focuses on children's individual development, adaptive education in various educational contexts, and educators and teachers as the main professional actors in daycare facilities, kindergartens, and elementary schools.

At the IDeA Center research on **individual development** focuses on developmental and learning processes of children. Cognitive and social influences on various domains relevant for successful education are studied, using longitudinal and cross-sectional designs. In addition to investigating how typical development provides a foundation for academic success, IDeA researchers are especially interested in divergent processes of development (e.g., learning disorders) attributed either to cognitive and neurological issues or to social inequality. The research teams at the IDeA Center develop and evaluate assessment tools designed to improve accuracy of the prediction of later school performance and thereby facilitate early intervention.

The central aim of research on **adaptive education** at the IDeA Center is to identify children's specific living and learning conditions and determine the extent to which educational programs take these contexts into consideration and adapt to them accordingly to ensure that the individual needs of children with varying preconditions are met. The learning contexts investigated include educational institutions such as daycare centers, kindergartens, and schools, as well as family, peers, and the home environment. Another focus of the projects is the development, evaluation, and implementation of adaptive learning arrangements that provide children with the support they need.

Projects at the IDeA Center are concerned with the **professionalization** of educators, who are key actors in the education system. IDeA research explores the competencies, orientations, and attitudes of educators and teachers in daycare facilities, kindergartens, and elementary schools to determine what support they need to arrange and manage settings conducive to learning for heterogeneous groups with varying needs and preconditions. Further, researchers at the IDeA Center investigate how politicians and the public view the role of educators and teachers and what expectations they express concerning their pedagogical work.



Directors:  
Prof. Dr. Christian Fiebach  
Prof. Dr. Florian Schmiedek



Directors:  
Prof. Dr. Sabine Andresen  
Prof. Dr. Marianne Leuzinger-Bohleber



Directors:  
Prof. Dr. Eckhard Klieme  
Prof. Dr. Mareike Kunter

