

Lucas P. Butler & Ellen M. Markman (2012): Finding the Cause: Verbal Framing Helps Children Extract Causal Evidence Embedded in a Complex Scene, Journal of Cognition and Development, 13:1, 38-66

This study asks whether

adult framing of problems

affects

causal learning and reasoning

in children

Independent
variable

adult framing of problems

is operationalized as

adults asking specifically framed questions to guide children's behavior and reasoning

&

causal learning and reasoning

is measured in terms of

how accurately children answer and interpret the question

Dependent
variable

The authors find

Implications

Children have the ability to reason about cause and effect and understand causal structures, but can reach even richer generalizations with scaffolding from adults, pointing to the value of adults in supporting learning.

This study asks whether

affects

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is manipulated by

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is measured by

The authors find

This study asks whether

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The authors find

presents evidence
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which suggests

This study asks whether

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is manipulated by

&

is measured by

The authors find

Stahl, A. E., & Feigenson, L. (2017). Expectancy violations promote learning in young children. *Cognition*, 163, 1-14.

This study asks whether

violation of expectation affects learning

in 3- to 6-year-old children .

violation of expectation

is manipulated by

staging surprising events
re: spatiotemporal or
featural properties of
objects ("magic!")

&

learning

is measured by

testing knowledge of
novel verbs paired with
surprising vs.
unsurprising events

The authors find

that children robustly learned when taught novel words after the surprising event but not after the expected event, likely because they paid more attention.

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The authors interpret this as evidence of

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The authors hypothesize that this reflects

A question left open by

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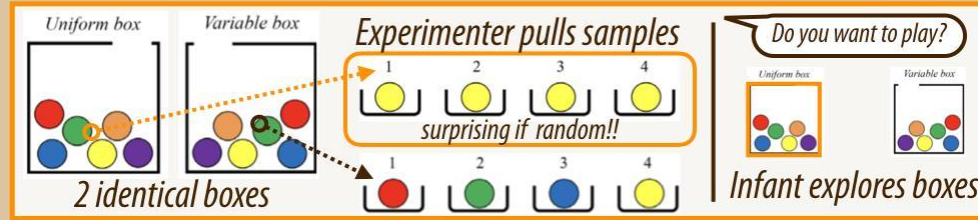


The authors predict that

Their results **confirm**
this hypothesis.

Research
question

Do infants selectively **approach**
and **explore** sources that **violate**
their expectations? ?

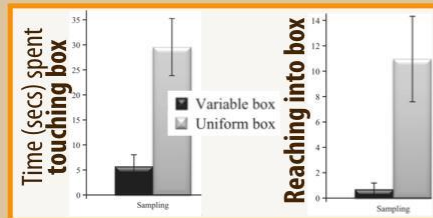


Experimental
method

Predictions

Sim & Xu (2017) predict that
12-13-month-old infants will look longer at the
box that defies their expectations, **and** they will
selectively choose to explore it during free play.

Results



Their results **confirm**
this hypothesis.

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Short Citation

Paper Title

Research question

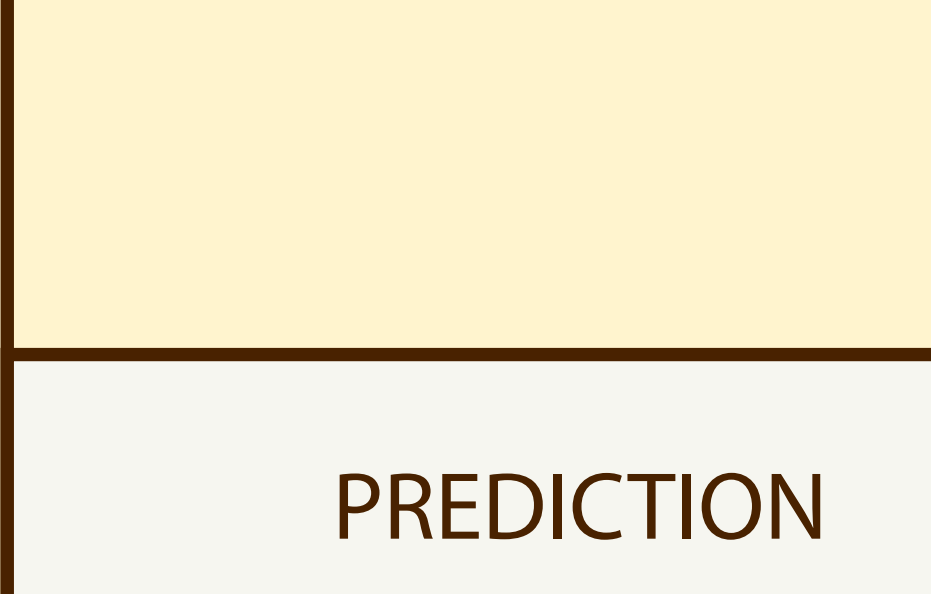
Figure illustrating method or logic

150-word summary

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