

Does Music Convey Social Information to Infants?

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Abstract

One or two sentences providing a **basic introduction** to the field, comprehensible to a scientist in any discipline. Five month old infants were exposed to one of two novel songs containing different melodies with lyrics and rhythms being the same. Infants either heard the songs through a toy in which their parent's voice was recorded or was sung live by a friendly unfamiliar person initially and later through video recording. Infant's selective attention was tested by having them listen to two presentations of either familiar or unfamiliar songs. Infants payed attention to the familiar song, sung by their parent in the past. No infant preference was observed between the toy onto which parent's voice was recorded or a video recording of an unfamiliar person, briefly met by an infant initially. Infants in the later two conditions retained the memory of the melody for longer than 8 months. These findings suggest that songs performed by parents at home convey social meaning to a child. Music is a universal phenomenon that captures our imaginations throughout our lifetime, starting from early childhood. Parents usually sing to their infants and children in a globally recognizable style of singing.

Two to three sentences of **more detailed background**, comprehensible to scientists in related disciplines.

One sentence clearly stating the **general problem** being addressed by this particular study.

One sentence summarizing the main result (with the words "**here we show**" or their equivalent).

Two or three sentences explaining what the **main result** reveals in direct comparison to what was thought to be the case previously, or how the main result adds to previous knowledge.

35 One or two sentences to put the results into a more **general context**.

36 Two or three sentences to provide a **broader perspective**, readily comprehensible to
37 a scientist in any discipline.

38 *Keywords:* keywords

39 Word count: X

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Methods

We report how we determined our sample size, all data exclusions (if any), all manipulations, and all measures in the study.

Participants

Material

Procedure

Data analysis

We used R (Version 3.5.2; R Core Team, 2018) and the R-packages *data.table* (Version 1.12.0; Dowle & Srinivasan, 2019), *papaja* (Version 0.1.0.9842; Aust & Barth, 2018), and *summarytools* (Version 0.9.2; Comtois, 2019) for all our analyses.

Warning: package 'summarytools' was built under R version 3.5.3

Results

Discussion

References

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