GBYK4 Instructions for participants

In this experiment you will start each round at a start point, you will then see two rows of two targets with numbers inside representing cent values. You will also see a box in between the first row targets, which I will explain shortly.

When you hear a beep, your job is to reach out and hit one of the targets. Each round, either the targets on the left, or the targets on the right will be correct (the others will be fake targets). We will not tell you which target is correct until after you move, and you can only hit one target each round. If you hit the correct target, you will earn a reward on that trial. Each target contains a number, which will show you how many cents that target is worth. Successfully hitting a target means that you will increase the total bonus you will receive at the end of the test.

Although there are 4 targets on the screen, there are two decisions you need to make: whether to reach left or right, and whether to reach to a target in the front row, or a target in the back row. When choosing left versus right, you may notice at different times that one side is more likely to be correct than the other. So, if you are paying attention, you will be able to better predict which direction to go.

When choosing to the near or far targets, note that the farther targets will never be worth more than the targets in the front row. So going directly from the start to one of the first-row targets gives you the opportunity to earn a larger reward. However, if you choose the wrong side, you will not earn any money that round. Alternatively, you can choose to go for one of the back row targets. Although these targets are sometimes worth less than the closer targets, there is an advantage to choosing them: by passing through the box on your way to the far targets, you will make the incorrect target disappear and reveal the correct target. This gives you the opportunity to adjust your reach to hit the correct target. Choosing the second row almost guarantees that you will hit the correct target, but the amount of reward available may not be worth it. Note that you cannot choose to hit both the box and the near targets. If you do choose to go to the far targets and the box, make sure not to stop at any point in your reach, we want you to move through the box and keep moving towards (and then through) the correct target.

If you hit a correct target it will turn green, and you will hear a coin sound. If you hit the incorrect target you will hear a buzz sound, and the correct target will stay lit for a second. If your reach is not smooth, or you stop during your reach, or you take too long to make your reach you will hear a buzz and all targets will disappear. You will have 3 seconds to make each reach, which should be more than enough time, just make sure you don’t stop, and that you don’t move backwards.

Each round pay close attention to what each target is worth, and then make a choice about which row to go to. Sometimes it is better to go for the second row, and sometimes it is better to go for the first row. Remember these targets are worth real money, so the more correct targets you hit, the more we will pay you when you’re done. Try your best to earn as much as you can.