

What's in a Look? Infants' Intuitions on Collaboration and Task Performance

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1. Background

Babies (1-2 yrs) learn joint goals and perspective-taking¹ through **first** and **second**-hand experience²

Infants expect tech distraction to lower performance³ (**hindrance**)

RQ: Do infants expect more collaborators (helping) to lead to better performance?

2. Methods

Pilot Design: within subjects, from Children Helping Science, analyzed with iCatcher+
Participants: $N = 14$, ages 16-20 months

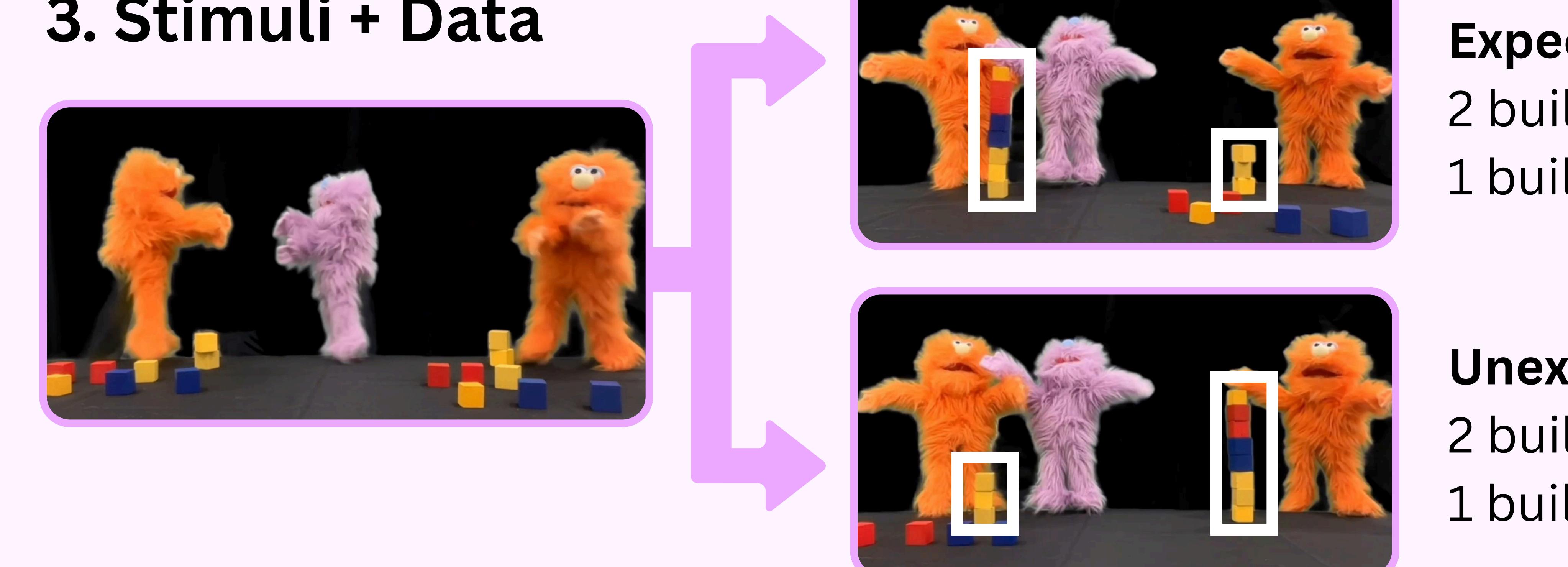
Adjacent Study: 4-9 yrs

- Possible limits to number of collaborators?
- Impact of affiliation on task performance

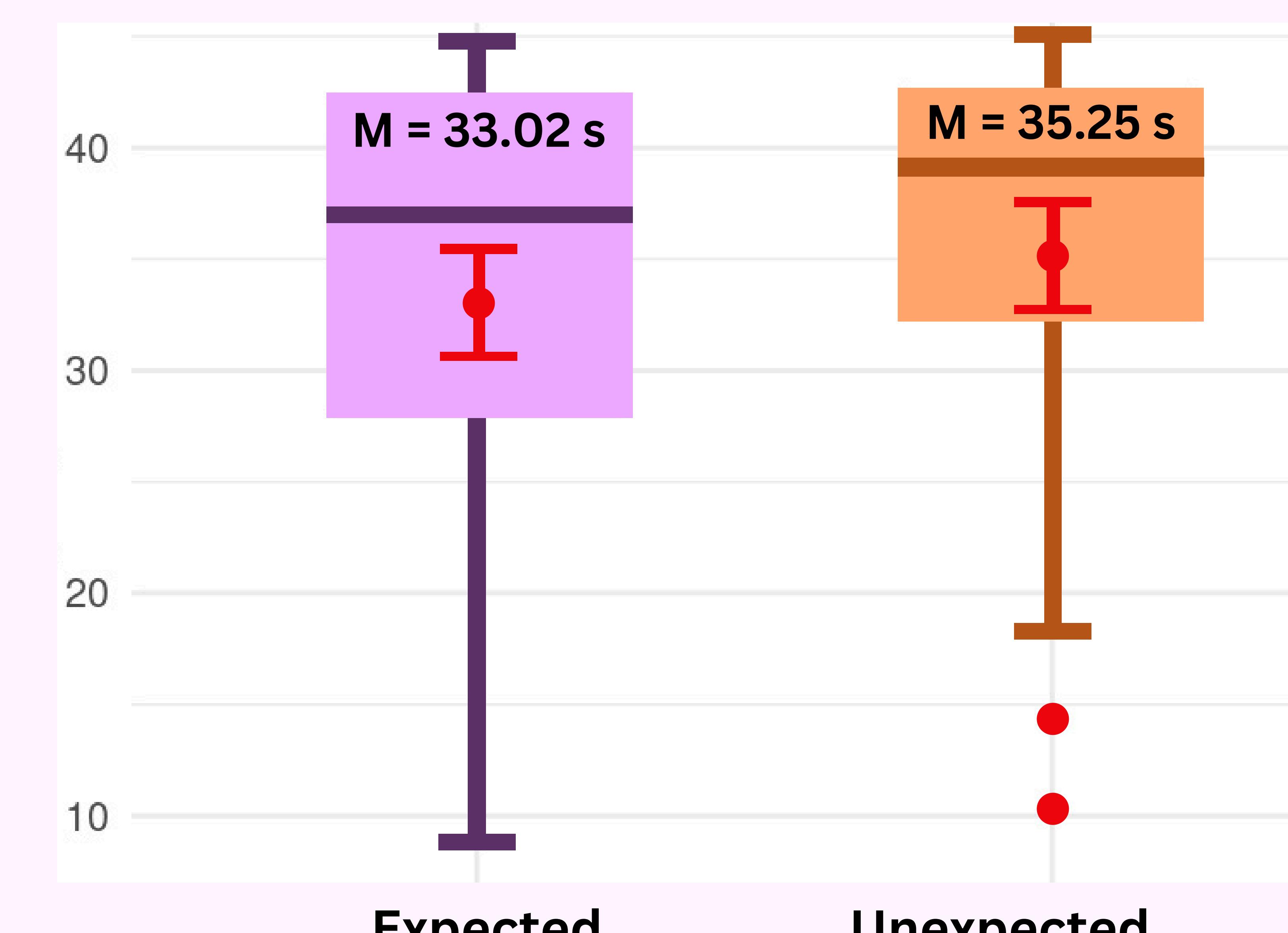


Will infants show a violation of expectation when 2 builders < 1?

3. Stimuli + Data



Look Time Over Conditions



Infants look longer when 1 puppet builds a taller tower than 2, but results aren't significant

4. Results

Infants look longer at unexpected condition ($M = 35.25 \text{ s}$) than the expected ($M = 33.02 \text{ s}$) condition

Stronger effect when viewing the **expected condition first**

Side Preference:

- Infants look more to the **right** side (1 builder) than left, regardless of condition

5. Future Directions

Modified Pilot → Official Task

- **Live actors** instead of puppets
 - Models what collaborative actions look like in infants' everyday lives
- **Study aims:** support future research on behavioral learning and social agency

