

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

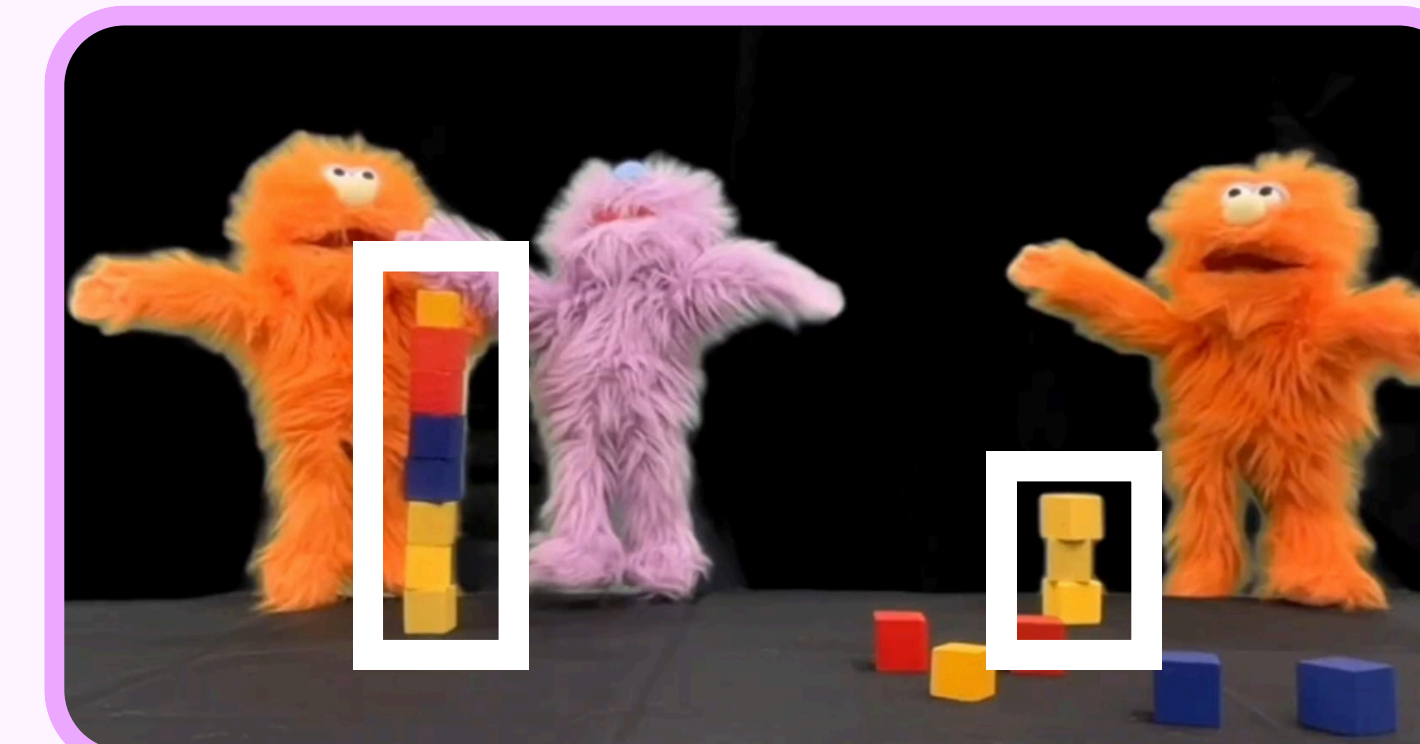
Pilot Design: within subjects, from Children Helping Science, analyzed with iCatcher+
Participants: $N = 14$, ages 16-20 months

Adjacent Study: 4-9 yrs

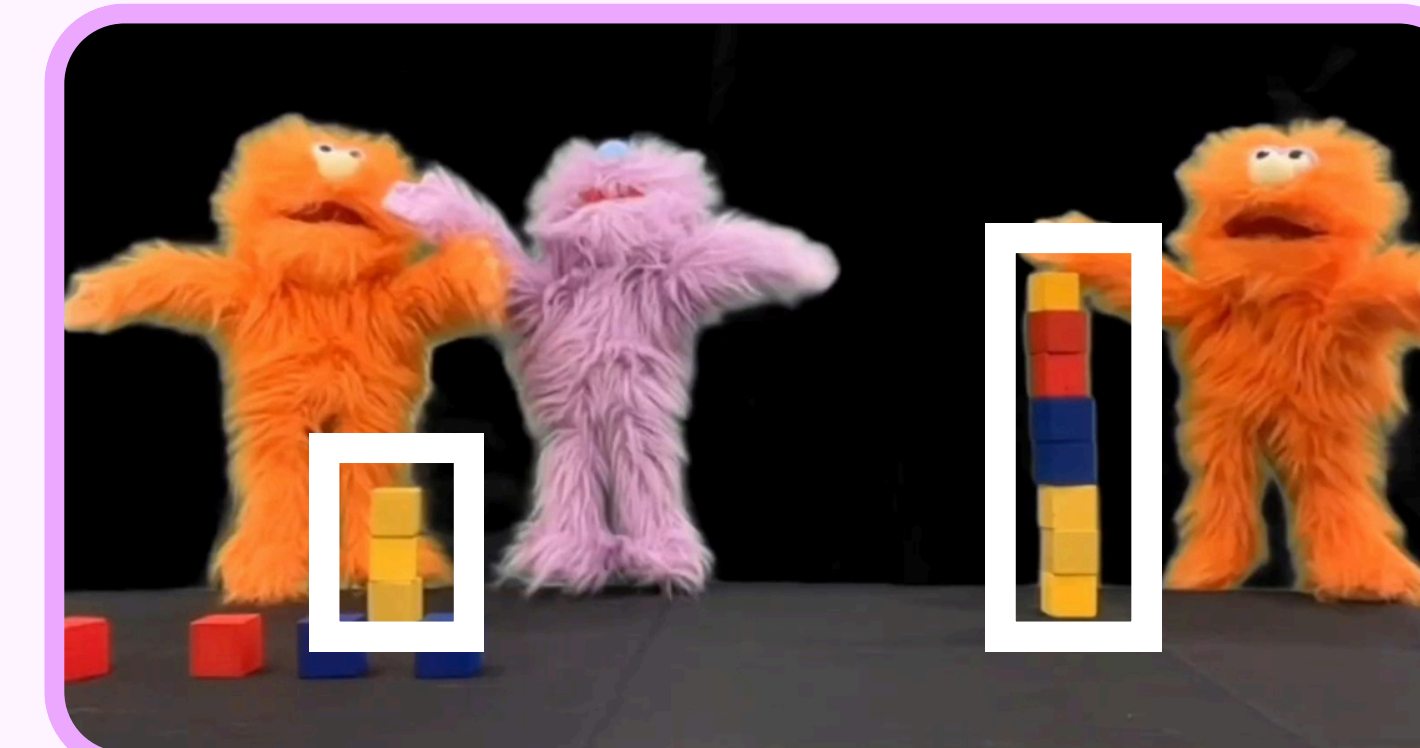
- Possible limits to number of collaborators?
- Impact of affiliation on task performance



3. Stimuli + Data

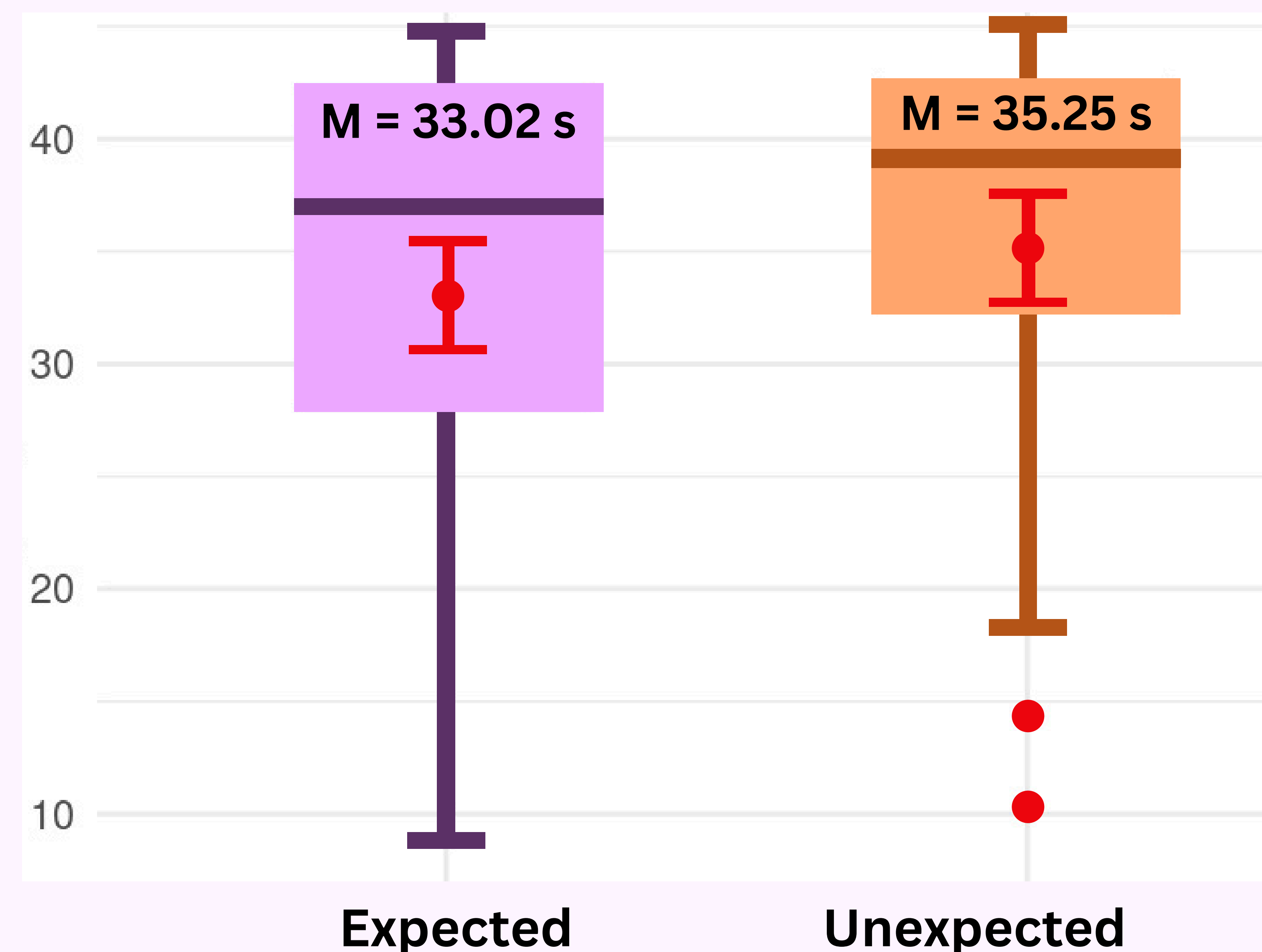


Expected:
2 builders >
1 builder



Unexpected:
2 builders <
1 builder

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 s**) than the expected (**M = 33.02 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

