



## Bringing science home



MIT's Early Childhood Cognition Lab is trying a new approach in developmental psychology: bringing the experiments to you.

On Lookit, you and your child can participate from home to contribute to research about how kids learn. You'll need a computer with an internet connection and a webcam.



## How it works

Create an account at <https://lookit.mit.edu> to get started. You'll be asked for some basic demographic information and the ages of your children.

Then you can select a study to participate in right away – you don't need an appointment! You and your child will do a short activity in the web browser as **webcam video** of his or her responses is sent back to the lab to analyze.

## Privacy

Just like in the lab, your data is handled with care! You'll be asked to provide verbal consent to participate at the start of the study, and at the end you can choose what uses of your video are okay and how it may be shared, if at all.

## Understanding your child's responses

Preschool-aged children may answer questions during studies, but infants show us what they're thinking with their eyes! We often measure how long children look at one picture or video versus another; consistent preferences can tell us that they can tell the difference. Below you can see some Lookit participants looking left and right.



# Current Lookit studies



## Your baby, the physicist

Age range: 4 - 12 months

Longitudinal (one or more 15-minute sessions)

In this study, we're looking at babies' understanding of physics principles like gravity, inertia, and support – all the things they're learning about as they fling food off the high chair. Again.

To get more accurate measurements and understand how stable preferences are over time, we invite families to do up to 15 sessions over the course of 2 months.



## Baby Euclid

Age range: 6.5–7.5 months (28–33 weeks)

One 10-minute session

Your 7-month-old probably isn't ready for geometry class – but he or she is already learning about shapes. In this study, your child will see side-by-side displays of changing triangles. We're interested in whether children look longer at the triangles that change shape (not just size), showing sensitivity to a key feature of Euclidean geometry.

# Questions?



We're happy to answer your questions about participating on Lookit!

Email: [lookit@mit.edu](mailto:lookit@mit.edu)

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# Lookit!



[lookit.mit.edu](http://lookit.mit.edu)

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online studies  
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