1   ManyBabies2 Supplemental Material

2

3

⁴ This document contains supplemental material of the manuscript:

⁵ Schuwerk, T.*, Kampis, D.*, Baillargeon, R., Biro, S., Bohn, M., Byers-Heinlein, K.,
⁶ Dörrenberg, S., Fisher, C., Franchin, L., Fulcher, T., Garbisch, I., Geraci, A., Grosse
⁷ Wiesmann, C., Hamlin, J. K., Hepach, R., Hunnius, S., Hyde, D. C., Kármán, P.,
⁸ Kosakowski, H. L., Kovács, Á. M., Krämer, A., Kulke, L., Lee, C., Lew-Williams, C.,
⁹ Liszkowski, U., Mahowald, K., Mascaro, O., Meyer, M., Moreau, D., Perner, J.,
¹⁰ Poulin-Dubois, D., Powell, L. J., Prein, J., Priewasser, B., Proft, M., Raz, G., Reschke, P.,
¹¹ Ross, J., Rothmaler, K., Saxe, R., Schneider, D., Southgate, V., Surian, L., Tebbe, A.-L.,
¹² Träuble, B., Tsui, A. S. M., Wertz, A. E., Woodward, A., Yuen, F., Yuile, A. R., Zellner,
¹³ L., Frank, M.C., & Rakoczy, H. (2021, February 14). Action anticipation based on an
¹⁴ agent's epistemic state in toddlers and adults. [Manuscript submitted for publication]
¹⁵ (*shared co-first authorship).

S1. Pilot Studies

¹⁷ The familiarization trials were developed to convey information that is necessary for
¹⁸ correct action predictions in this paradigm. First, the agent's goal is introduced, i.e. the
¹⁹ chaser wants to catch their partner (the chasee). Second, the situational constraints of the
²⁰ scene are shown. A barrier (fence) divides the scene so that the other side can only be
²¹ reached by going through a y-shaped tunnel. Yet, it had to be clear that the fence is not a
²² visual barrier, meaning that the chaser can see everything that takes place on the other
²³ side. Third, the familiarization trials should teach the timing of events, particularly, how
²⁴ much time the chaser spends in the tunnel and when their reappearance is to be expected.
²⁵ We piloted the stimuli with adults and toddlers between 18 and 27 months of age, the core
²⁶ age range of our main study. All analysis scripts can be found on GitHub
²⁷ (https://github.com/manybabies/mb2-analysis).

Pilot 1

In the first pilot study, we wanted to get an estimate of the level of correct goal-based action predictions with these novel stimuli. We presented a total of eight familiarization trials. An observation of changes in the anticipation rate over trials would help us to determine the optimal number of familiarization trials. Further, we used this pilot to test the general procedure (i.e., data collection in different labs, preprocessing and analysis of raw gaze data from different eye-trackers). We also checked whether gaze patterns indicated any issues with perceptual properties of stimuli, such as distracting visual saliencies. Data for this pilot study was collected between February and July 2019.

Methods.

Participants. Seven labs[1] tested a total of 65 healthy full-term toddlers (28 males; Mean age = 23.14 months; range: 18.25 to 26.84 months). Data from eight additional toddlers were excluded from the analyses. Three did not complete the full experiment, another three did not complete at least six trials. Two toddlers had to be excluded due to technical problems with data collection (e.g., calibration of eye-tracker). At the trial level, four additional trials were excluded because the trial data was incomplete (as determined by not having at least 32 s of eye-tracking data for that trial, from the beginning to the end of the trial). A total of 42 adults were tested in three labs [5 males, 1 male/other, 1 N/C (not collected); Mean age = 24.10 years; range: 19 to 53 years]. One adult was excluded because this participant did not complete at least six trials. We asked contributing labs for a minimum sample size of 3-5 participants per age group. We reasoned that the resulting minimum total sample of 27-45 participants per age group

---

[1] The contributing labs were: CEU Cog Dev Center, Central European University, Budapest; Babylab Copenhagen, University of Copenhagen, Denmark; Göttinger Kindsköpfe, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany; LMU Babylab, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany; Babylab Uni Trento, University of Trento, Italy; Center for Infant Cognition, University of British Columbia, Canada; Infant Learning and Development Lab, University of Chicago, USA

would be large enough for an initial estimate of anticipatory looking (AL) behavior. The contributing labs were independently responsible for obtaining informed written consent and reimbursing participants. Each lab acquired ethics approval. Central data analyses only used de-identified data. Video recordings of participants were archived locally at each lab following the local data protection regulations.

Task and Procedure. Toddlers were tested in a quiet room of nurseries or laboratories, after their caregivers read and signed the informed consent form. They sat on an educator/caregiver's lap or on a car seat, centered in front of the monitor used to display the stimuli at a distance of about 60-80 cm. Educators or caregivers were instructed to remain silent and to wear black glasses or close their eyes to avoid erroneous tracking of their eyes. The experimenter was behind a curtain/room divider and controlled stimulus presentation. Depending on the lab setup, the following eye-tracking systems were used: Tobii T60 (two labs), Tobii T120 (two labs), EyeLink 1000 Plus (two labs), SMI250Redmobile (two labs), SMI iView X Hi-Speed 1250 (one lab). For each lab the following information was collected: type of eye-tracker apparatus, trial order condition (A or B), any procedural or technical error that occurred during the experimental session, location of the lab they were tested in (laboratory or nursery). The task consisted of a calibration check, eight familiarization trials and another final calibration check. After an initial attention getter, participants were presented with the calibration check that consisted of an animated star with sound, moving and stopping at four locations. The familiarization trials were as described in the Methods section of the main study, with the following deviations: In the upper part of the tunnel there was a small window that allowed participants to watch the agents moving inside the upper part of the tunnel before it forked. Further, unlike in the final familiarization trial version, a chime sounded at the moment the chaser disappeared from the tunnel window, indicating the start of the anticipatory period. The starting location of the chasee (left or right half of the upper part of the scene) and the box the chasee ended up (left or right box) were counterbalanced, resulting in a total of

77 four familiarization trial versions [started from the right and ended up in right box (RR);

78 started from the right and ended up in left box (RL); started from the left and ended up in

79 right box (LR); started from the left and ended up in left box (LL)]. Each of these versions

80 was presented twice in two pseudo-randomized orders (Order A: LL1, LR2, RR2, RR1,

81 LL2, RL2, LR1, RL1; Order B: RL1 LR1, RL2, LL2, RR1, RR2, LR2, LL1). Half of the

82 participants in each lab group were randomly assigned to one of the two orders.

83 ***Data Analysis.*** The labs exported the raw gaze data in the format the respective

84 eye-tracking software allowed. The participants' demographic information and details

85 about the test session were collected in standardized spreadsheets. Each lab provided the

86 raw gaze data and de-identified demographic information with Google Drive. Data

87 preprocessing was identical to the procedure of the current study. For details refer to the

88 Methods section of the main manuscript.

89 **Results.**

90 ***Descriptive Statistics.*** In Figure S1, we show the toddlers' proportion of first

91 looks and the proportion looking at each of the critical AOIs (target, distractor, other)

92 during the anticipatory period of each trial. Figure S2 (plots labeled pilot 1) shows the

93 proportion of looking of toddlers and adults as a smooth curve, generated by binning the

94 data and averaging the proportion looking at each time point across all participants. We

95 saw robust evidence for looks to the target relative to the distractor during the anticipation

96 period, as evidenced by the red lines being consistently higher than the blue lines. In

97 Figure S2, we separated trials into two blocks (Trials 1-4 and Trials 5-8). For toddlers in

98 Pilot 1, we see similar rates of anticipation for Trials 1-4, as in Trials 5-8. In fact,

99 anticipation is slightly lower in Trials 5-8 than in Trials 1-4. For adults, we see an increase

100 in the anticipation rate in Trials 5-8. The heatmaps in Figure S3 illustrate the distribution

101 of looks to scene locations during the anticipatory period. We found that a large

102 proportion of anticipatory looks was directed to the tunnel exits. Substantially fewer looks

103 fell onto the boxes. Unexpectedly, many looks were attracted by the tunnel window (the

104 location where the chaser was last seen).

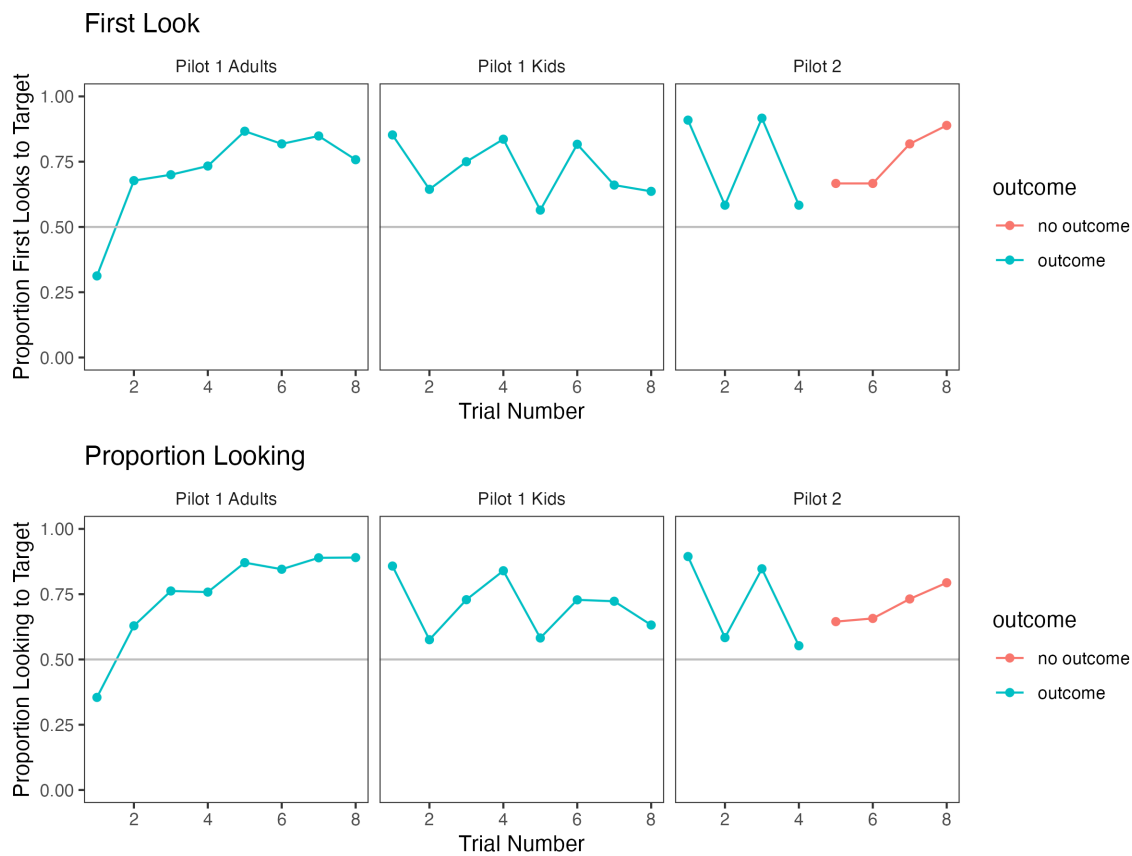## First Look

Proportion Looking

Figure S1. First looks and proportion looking of children from Pilot 1 for each trial.

Note. Top: proportion of first looks to the target as a function of trial number; Bottom:

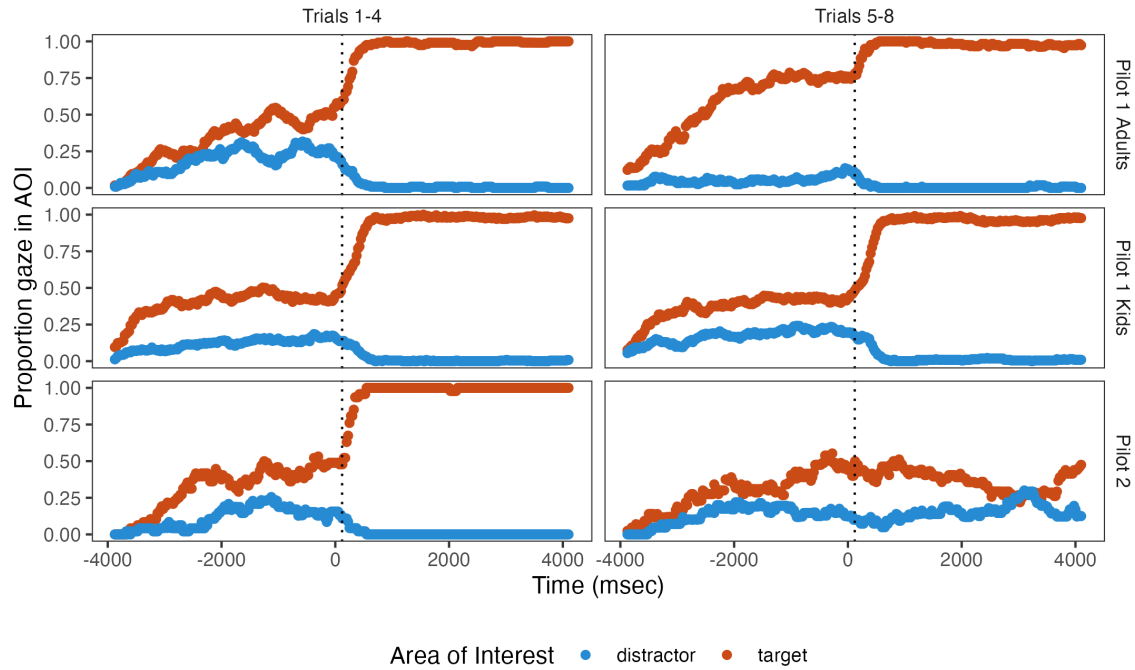proportion looking score as a function of trial number.

Figure S2. Binned proportion looking, averaged across all participants and trials.

Note. The left column comes from Trials 1-4, the right column from Trials 5-8. The vertical dotted line represents the disambiguation time. The red points represent looks to the target, the blue points represent looks to the distractor.

Inferential statistics. To further assess the pilot data and test our proposed analysis described in the main text, we ran two Bayesian mixed effect models as described in the main manuscript, the first using first look location as the dependent variable and the second using proportional looking score as the dependent variable. For the first look analysis, we defined the first look location as in the main text (corresponding roughly to the first look of 150 ms or more in the same AOI). We calculated the proportion looking (p) to the correct AOI during the full 4000 ms anticipatory window by correct AOI looks / (correct AOI looks + incorrect AOI looks), excluding looks outside of either AOI. The anticipatory eye movement window was defined 120 ms after the first frame when the chaser had completely entered the tunnel and 120 ms after the chaser reappeared from the tunnel.

₁₁₅   Because we wanted to ask if participants were attentive and could still make

₁₁₆ predictive looks at the end of the familiarization phase, we coded the trial number such

₁₁₇ that the last trial during the familiarization phase (the 8th in pilot 1) is set to 0, with trials

₁₁₈ 1 through 7 are coded as -7 to -1, respectively. We used the priors described in the main

₁₁₉ text of our analysis plan. Our base model was as follows, where measure refers to the

₁₂₀ dependent variable (either first look or the proportional looking score):

₁₂₁ $Measure\ 1 + trial\_number + (trial\_number|lab) + (trial\_number|participant)$. We

₁₂₂ fitted a reduced model for model comparison:

₁₂₃ $Measure\ 0 + trial\_number + (trial\_number|lab) + (trial\_number|participant)$. We then

₁₂₄ calculated the Bayes factor, which we interpret as described in the main text.

₁₂₅   *Toddlers.*   For the first look analysis, the intercept estimate was .44, (CrI95% =

₁₂₆ 0.07, 0.80). This corresponds to a point estimate of a 61% probability of the first look to

₁₂₇ be mapped onto the target as opposed to the distractor. The Bayes factor comparing the

₁₂₈ model with and without the intercept was 1.52, which is inconclusive by our criteria

₁₂₉ (Schönbrodt & Wagenmakers, 2018). For the proportional looking score main model, the

₁₃₀ model estimate for the intercept was 0.16 (CrI95% = 0.10, 0.23). This can be interpreted

₁₃₁ as a point estimate of a 66% probability of looking at the target. The Bayes factor was

₁₃₂ 493.25, which was strong evidence in favor of the full model and which strongly suggests

₁₃₃ that toddlers looked more towards the target than towards the distractor during the

₁₃₄ anticipation period.

₁₃₅   *Adults.*   For the first look analysis, we obtained a model estimate of 1.95 (CrI95% =

₁₃₆ 1.42, 2.48). This corresponds to a probability of 88% that the first look is to the target.

₁₃₇ The Bayes factor was > 1000, which was evidence in favor of the full model. For the

₁₃₈ Proportion Differential looking score analysis[2], the Bayes factor was also > 1000, which

---

[2] We note that the base model for the Proportion Differential looking score analysis in adults had divergent

issues. These issues were not resolved after adjusting the alpha level to a very high number (e.g.,

0.999999). Thus, the results needed to be interpreted with caveat.

139 was evidence in favor of the full model. This suggested that adults had a higher proportion

140 of looking at the target than chance level. The model estimate for the intercept was 0.46

141 (CrI95% = 0.38, 0.54). Based on these analyses, it is clear that adults looked more to the

142 target than the toddlers did, and it appears this was driven by Trials 5-8, as can be seen in

143 Figure S2. Adults learn to anticipate the target and, on later trials, very rarely look at the

144 distractor.

145 **Discussion.** Based on the first pilot, we drew the following conclusions: (1)

146 Toddlers and adults show anticipation during the anticipatory period, and thus the

147 paradigm seems successful at eliciting anticipation. (2) Over the course of eight trials,

148 toddlers and adults remained attentive and showed anticipatory behavior even during the

149 last trial of the familiarization phase. (3) Four familiarization trials seem to be sufficient

150 and there do not appear to be strong additional benefits of running additional trials.

151 Crucially, trials five to eight did not help to increase the overall anticipation rate for

152 toddlers, as shown in Figure S2. Note that in the adults sample AL slightly increased after

153 trial 4. We nonetheless decided to use four familiarization trials in the main study because

154 we reasoned that it is more important to avoid fatigue or boredom in the toddlers sample

155 than to get even higher anticipation rates for adults. It is important to note that our

156 decision to include 4 familiarization trials is based on (1) conceptual and practical

157 methodological considerations also considering previous studies and (2) the pilot study

158 results. Replication studies of Southgate, Senju, and Csibra (2007) pointed to issues with

159 the familiarization phase and that the two trials of the original study might not be enough

160 to familiarize toddlers with the scenario (e.g., Kampis & Southgate, 2020; Schuwerk,

161 Priewasser, Sodian, & Perner, 2018). On the other hand, to avoid unnecessarily increasing

162 the overall length of the task and to prevent poor anticipatory looking due to fatigue or

163 boredom, we did not want to include too many familiarization trials. In the discussions

164 preceding the pilot data analysis, we came to the conclusion that four trials reflect such an

165 optimal trade-off. The pilot data results of the toddlers then supported this decision

insofar as we observed a looking bias towards the correct location already in trials 1-4,

without additional benefit of trials 5-8. Due to the exploratory nature of the pilot studies,

we refrained from running inferential statistics in addition to the visual inspection of the

first look and proportion looking data, as well as of the time series illustration, which all

converged on this interpretation (see supplementary Figure S1 and S2). The duration of

the anticipatory period was set based on durations used in previous studies. Earlier studies

found action outcome-contingent anticipatory looking with anticipatory phases ranging

between approximately 2-3.5 seconds (Low & Watts, 2013; Meristo et al., 2012; Surian &

Geraci, 2012; Thoermer et al., 2012). To make sure we are not losing anticipatory looks by

cutting off too early, we decided to use a time period of 4 seconds. The pilot data showed

no evidence for a decline in anticipatory looking towards the end of the anticipatory period

(see time series plot in S2), which supported this decision. Further, the distribution of

looks in the anticipatory period helped us to evaluate the appropriateness of our AOI

dimension, in particular whether restricting AOIs to the tunnel exits not including the

adjacent box optimally captures goal-directed anticipatory looks. By increasing the AOI

dimensions so that they cover both the tunnel exit and the box, we could potentially detect

more goal-directed anticipatory looks. On the other hand, looks to the box cannot

unambiguously be interpreted as anticipations of the chaser's upcoming action.

Participants might look to the box simply because this is where the chasee is, anticipating

that the chasee might jump out of the box again. Thus, we concluded that restricting our

AOIs to the tunnel exits –the location where the chaser will reappear– is the more

conservative and more unambiguously interpretable measure of goal-directed action

prediction. The result of our pilot study corroborated this strategy. The larger proportion

of anticipatory looks was indeed directed to the tunnel exits and not to the boxes. Based

on this finding, we concluded that using the tunnel exit AOIs is the sharper measure of

goal-directed action predictions without a substantial loss of looks that could also reflect

action predictions but are directed elsewhere (e.g., to the box). An unexpected result of

193 Pilot 1 was that during the anticipatory period, many fixations were attracted by the

194 tunnel window where the agent was last seen. This was potentially problematic since

195 looking at the window could lead to a reduced amount of anticipatory looks to the

196 target/distractor AOIs. Initially, the window was added to the tunnel with the aim to

197 increase AL (cf., Surian & Franchin, 2020). But the results suggested that it may have

198 been distracting, and so we removed the window for Pilot 2.

199 **Pilot 2**

200 To further hone our stimulus design, we conducted a second pilot. First, we removed

201 the potentially distracting tunnel window from all trials in Pilot 2. Second, we tested

202 another method to increase AL. We asked whether a chime as an arbitrary timing cue

203 helps to elicit AL to the tunnel exits in (future) test trials in which the agent does not

204 reappear at one of the tunnel exits (because these test trials stop after the end of the

205 anticipatory phase without showing the agent's action outcome). To this end, we presented

206 the first four familiarization trials showing the outcome associated with the chime, i.e., the

207 chime announced the reappearance of the chaser, and four subsequent familiarization trials

208 without an outcome, i.e., the chime sounded, but the chaser did not reappear. We reasoned

209 that if participants learn in the first four trials that the chime indicates the chaser's

210 reappearance, we should see an increase in AL right after the chime sounded. Further, this

211 increase should also be observable in the last four trials in which the chaser does not

212 reappear. Data collection for this pilot started in January 2020 and had to stop due to

213 Covid-19 outbreak in March 2020.

214 **Methods.**

215 ***Participants.***   A total of 12 healthy full-term toddlers participated in the second

216 pilot study (6 males; Mean age = 24.15 months; range: 19.14 months to 26.05 months).

217 One additional toddler was tested but excluded from the analyses because this toddler did

218 not complete at least six trials. An additional one trial was excluded as the toddler did not

²¹⁹ look at least 32 seconds during this trial. We asked five labs to contribute a minimal

²²⁰ sample size of four toddlers. Yet, data collection had to stop due to the Covid-19 outbreak.

²²¹   ***Task and Procedure.***   The task and procedure were similar to Pilot 1. In this

²²² study, the following eye-tracking systems were used: Tobii T60 (one lab), Tobii T120 (one

²²³ lab), EyeLink 1000 Plus (two labs), and Tobii Pro Spectrum (one lab). After the initial

²²⁴ attention getter, participants were presented with the calibration check as in Pilot 1, eight

²²⁵ familiarization trials and at the end, again the calibration check. The familiarization trials

²²⁶ started by showing the same scene as in pilot 1, except that the window was removed from

²²⁷ the tunnel. The trials differed in whether they displayed an outcome (i.e., the chaser exits

²²⁸ the tunnel and the two agents rejoin) or not (i.e., trial stopped after the anticipatory

²²⁹ period). The first four trials showed the outcome, the last four trials did not. Unlike in the

²³⁰ first pilot, the chime now sounded the moment the chaser reappeared at one of the tunnel

²³¹ exits in the outcome trials. In the no outcome trials, the chime sounded the same moment,

²³² yet now the chaser did not appear. Again, the trials were presented in two

²³³ pseudo-randomized orders [Order A: outcome (LR, LL, RR, RL), no outcome (LL, RL, LR,

²³⁴ RR); Order B: outcome (RL, RR, LL, LR), no outcome (RR, LR, RL, LL]. Half of the

²³⁵ participants in each lab group were randomly assigned to one of two orders.

²³⁶   ***Data Analysis.***   Data preprocessing was analogous to Pilot 1.

²³⁷   **Results and Discussion.**   As can be seen in Figures S1 and S2, we found a similar

²³⁸ pattern of results in both conditions of Pilot 2 (with outcome and without come) as we did

²³⁹ in Pilot 1. We saw more looks directed towards the target than to the distractor. As

²⁴⁰ described above, all trials in Pilot 2 lacked the tunnel window, whereas all trials in Pilot 1

²⁴¹ included the tunnel window. Thus, we can assess the effect of the tunnel window by

²⁴² comparing Pilot 2 to Pilot 1. We found that the removal of the tunnel window did not

²⁴³ appear to increase or decrease AL in Pilot 2 in any clear way. In fact, even after the

²⁴⁴ removal of the window, a substantial amount of gaze was attracted towards the location

²⁴⁵ where the window had been in Pilot 1 (for an illustration, see Figure S4). An explanation

for this pattern of results is that not the window itself but its location in the center of the scene attracted visual attention. Previous research documented a central fixation bias in infants, toddlers and adults when viewing complex visual scenes (Tatler, 2007; van Renswoude et al., 2019). By comparing the outcome and no outcome conditions in Pilot 2, we were able to assess whether the use of the chime helps AL. We did not find evidence that the chime helped to increase AL, and the majority of anticipatory looks to the tunnel exits happened before the chime sounded. As with Pilot 1, we ran a series of Bayesian mixed effect models to quantitatively evaluate anticipation. As we had a much smaller sample in Pilot 2, our Bayesian analyses were broadly inconclusive and did not favor either the full or null model. (Bayes factors fell between 0.1 and 3), suggesting that we did not have sufficient data to conclude whether the evidence is in favor of the full model or the simpler model. But, by comparing the results to the results of Pilot 1, we are confident that the results of Pilot 2 are qualitatively similar.
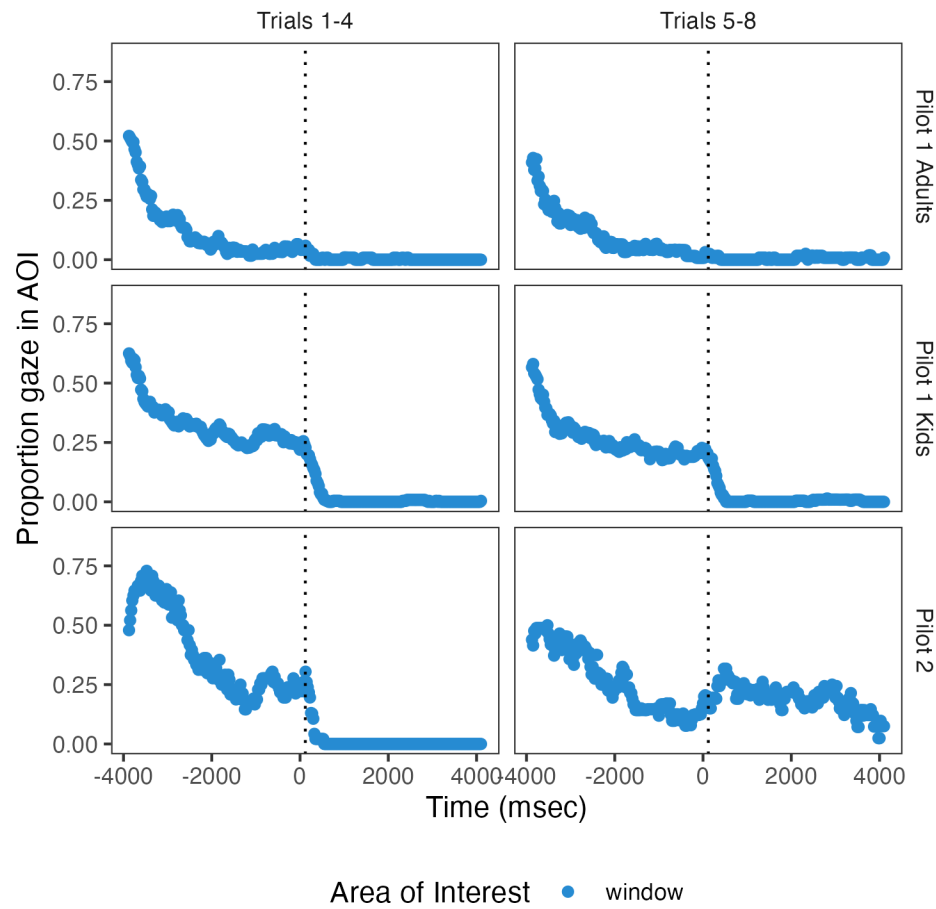
Figure S3. Proportion looks to the area where the window is (in Pilot 1) or would be if it were there (in Pilot 2) across conditions.

Note. These graphs show that, at the time that the chaser disappears at around -4000 ms, there are many looks to the window/center of the screen. Over the course of the anticipation period, as more participants look to the target and distractor, there are fewer looks to the window. At the time of disambiguation, which occurs in all panels except for Pilot 2, Trials 5-8 (the no outcome condition), any remaining looks to the window disappear.

Conclusions. In both pilot studies we found that participants produced goal-directed action predictions. The combined analysis using AOIs around the tunnel exits revealed a looking bias towards the exit at which the chaser reappeared following their goal to catch the chasee. We are thus confident that participants clearly predicted the

agent's action and did not just look at the chasee's location, anticipating something else.

The changes of stimulus features in Pilot 2 did not affect AL rates. To reduce the

complexity of the stimuli, we decided to use the stimuli without the tunnel window.

Further, we removed the chime from the final version. In sum, we conclude that these novel

stimuli sufficiently elicit goal-directed action predictions and are thus suited to serve as

familiarization trials in the study described in the main text.

S2. Further Supplemental Information: Methods

Overview on employed eye-tracking systems

Table S1 provides an overview of the different eye-tracking systems used by

participating labs.

Table S1

Overview of eye-tracking systems, software type, and sampling rates used.

Eye-tracking system	N	Software	Sampling rate
EyeLink 1000	1	EyeLink Experiment Builder	500 Hz
EyeLink 1000 Plus	13	EyeLink Experiment Builder	1000 Hz, 250 Hz, 500 Hz
EyeLink Portable Duo	1	EyeLink Experiment Builder	1000 Hz
SMI	1	SMI Experiment Center	60 Hz
SMI Redn	2	SMI Experiment Center	60 Hz
Tobii Pro Fusion	1	Tobii Pro Lab	120 Hz
Tobii Pro Fusion 120 Hz	9	Tobii Pro Lab, PsychoPy	1200 Hz, 120 Hz
Tobii Pro Fusion/Tobii X3-120	1	Tobii Pro Lab	120 Hz
Tobii Pro Spectrum	12	Tobii Pro Lab, PsychoPy	1200 Hz, 60 Hz, 120 Hz, 300 Hz, 60-1200 Hz
Tobii Pro X3–120	2	Tobii Studio	120 Hz
Tobii Pro?	1	Tobii Pro Lab	300 Hz
Tobii T120	2	Tobii Studio, Tobii Pro Lab	120 Hz
Tobii T60	2	Tobii Studio	60 Hz
Tobii TX300	7	Tobii Studio, Tobii Pro Lab	300 Hz, 120 Hz
Tobii X120	7	Tobii Studio, Tobii Pro Lab	120 Hz
Tobii X3-120	1	Tobii Pro Lab	120 Hz

Design Analysis

We implemented a simulation-based design analysis to demonstrate the range of BFs
we might expect to see, given a plausible range of effect sizes and parameters. We focus
this analysis on our key analysis of the test trials (as specified below), namely the
difference in AL on the first test trial that participants saw. Figure S4 depicts the effect
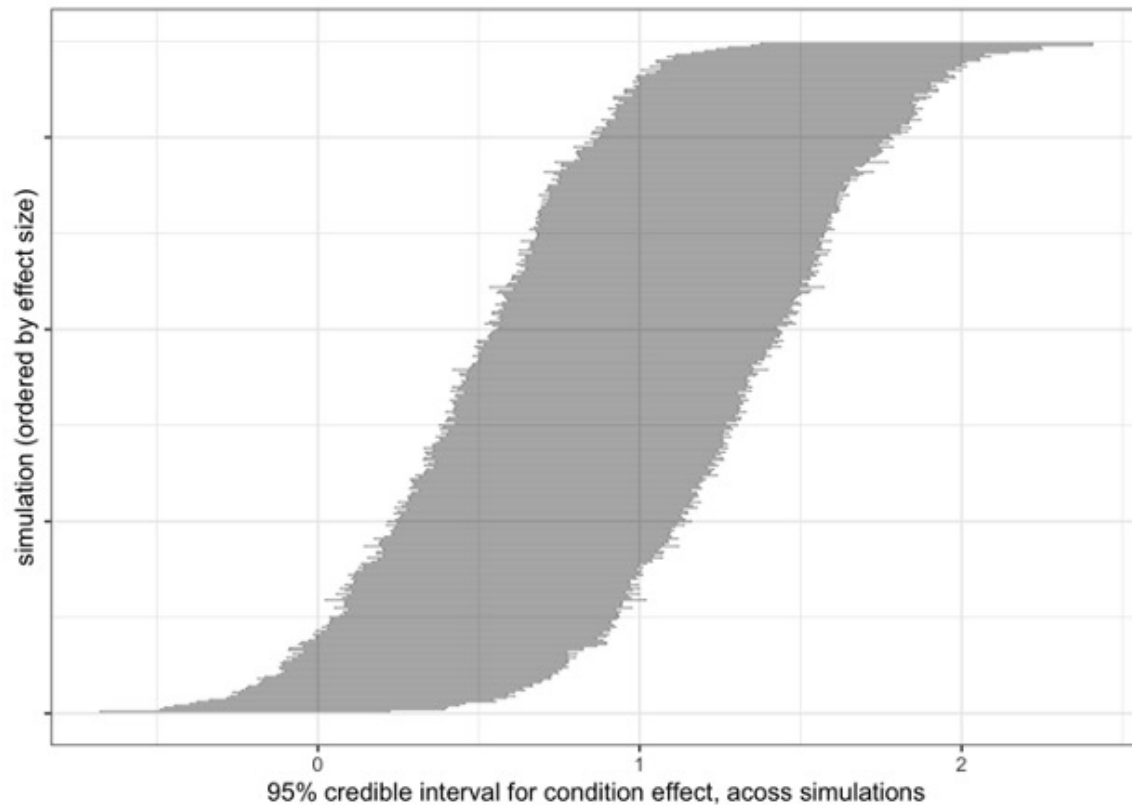sizes of simulated experiments

Figure S4. Effect sizes of simulated experiments.

Note. Ordered by effect size (from left to right), 95% credible intervals for the key effect (in logit space) for our simulated experiments that use first look as the dependent variable.

Questionnaires and test session information

Using a questionnaire (filled out during the lab session or online for remote testing procedures) we will collect the following demographic information from the participating toddlers: gender, chronological age in days, nationality of the toddler, estimated proportion of language exposure, preterm/full-term status, current visual or hearing impairments, any known developmental concerns, information about siblings (number, gender, age), duration of time the toddler spends with caregivers and in day-care. From their caregivers the following information will be collected: gender, nationality, native language(s), level of education. For the adult sample, the following demographic information will be collected:

²⁸⁸ gender, chronological age in years, and level of education. Additionally, we collect the

²⁸⁹ following information for each participant: name of lab the participant was tested in,

²⁹⁰ academic status of the experimenter involved in the test session (e.g., volunteer,

²⁹¹ undergraduate, graduate, post-doctoral, professor), the type of eye-tracking apparatus used

²⁹² including sampling rate and screen dimensions (for eye-tracking procedures), date of

²⁹³ testing, trial order condition the participant was assigned to, any procedural or technical

²⁹⁴ error that occurred during the session and further reasons for exclusion, and the type of

²⁹⁵ recruitment method the lab used. For the toddlers sample, we will additionally ask for the

²⁹⁶ amount of experience the experimenter has in testing toddlers, and whether the toddler sat

²⁹⁷ on the caregiver's lap or in a seat. The requested demographic information that is not used

²⁹⁸ in the registered confirmatory and/or exploratory analyses of this study will be collected

²⁹⁹ for further potential follow-up analyses in spin-off projects within the MB framework.

³⁰⁰ **Stimuli**

³⁰¹   **General Scene Setup.** The depicted scene comprises an open space colored in

³⁰² blue. A horizontal picket fence divides the space into two sections (upper: approx. one

³⁰³ third; lower: approx. two thirds). In the upper section, initially two animated, same-sized

³⁰⁴ agents are seen: a brown bear (chaser) and a yellow mouse (chasee). The agents

³⁰⁵ communicate using pseudo utterances. When they move, footsteps can be heard. The back

³⁰⁶ of the upper section is formed by a wall with a small, central door through which the

³⁰⁷ agents can enter and leave the scenario. Leaving through this door partially covers the

³⁰⁸ agent, with the lower part of the body still visible. In the lower section of the scene, two

³⁰⁹ identical brown boxes with moveable lids are located (one on the left and one on the right

³¹⁰ side). A white, centrally located, inverted Y-shaped tunnel connects both sides of the

³¹¹ fence. One entrance is located in the upper section, while two identical exits are located in

³¹² the lower section. Each exit in the lower section points towards the left or right box,

³¹³ respectively. The agents can move from the upper to the lower section of the scene by

314   walking through the tunnel.

315   **Familiarization Trials.**   All participants will view four familiarization trials. Each

316   trial starts with the chaser and the chasee playing tag in the upper section of the scene.

317   That is, the chasee runs off in a circle and is closely followed by the chaser (~4 s). When

318   the chasee stops, the chaser catches up and they do a high five (~1 s). After separating

319   again, the agents stand next to each other in front of the tunnel´s entrance (left or right

320   position counterbalanced) (~3 s). Next, the chasee makes eye contact with the chaser (~2

321   s) and leaves for the tunnel. The chaser watches closely as the chasee walks towards the

322   tunnel and enters it (~2 s). The chaser then positions itself centrally in front of the tunnel

323   entrance (~4 s). While the chasee is walking through the tunnel for four seconds, there is a

324   sound of footsteps. The footsteps cease when the chasee leaves the tunnel through one of

325   the two exits (left or right, counterbalanced) in the lower section (~3 s). At this point, the

326   chasee briefly stops, turns around and establishes eye contact with the chaser across the

327   fence (~1 s). The chaser raises their hands to the mouth and shouts (~2 s). Next, the

328   chasee continues towards the box at the tunnel exit (~1 s). The lid of the box opens

329   (accompanied by a clap sound) and the chasee jumps into it - after which the lid of the box

330   closes, again accompanied by a clap sound (~1 s). Then, the chaser walks towards the

331   tunnel entrance (~2 s) and transits through the tunnel. While it is walking through the

332   tunnel, footsteps sound (~4 s - anticipatory period). A chime is played in the moment in

333   which the chaser exits the tunnel (cue for the approach phase of the chaser). After leaving

334   the tunnel (~2 s), the chaser approaches the box in which the chasee is hiding and knocks

335   on it (~2 s). Then, the chasee jumps out of the box (with a box opening clap sound) and

336   the chaser and chasee do a high five (~4 s).

337   **Test Trials.**   Test trials start with the same chasing sequence as in the

338   familiarization trials. After doing a high five, chaser and chasee take their positions in front

339   of the tunnel entrance. Next, the chasee makes eye contact with the chaser, leaves for the

340   tunnel and enters it. From this point onwards, the events depend on the condition: In the

341 ignorance condition, after the chasee entered the tunnel (~12 s after start), the chaser exits

342 through the door in the wall in the back (~4 s). The back of the chaser remains visible.

343 While the chaser is away (for ~8 s), the chasee walks through the tunnel (~4 s) and leaves

344 through one of the exits (left or right, counterbalanced)(~2 s) and jumps into the respective

345 box (~1 s). After approximately one second, while the chaser is still away, the chasee leaves

346 this box A and tiptoes to the other box (~4 s). The chasee then jumps into box B and the

347 lid closes (~1 s). In contrast to the familiarization trials, the chasee and the boxes make no

348 sounds and no chime is played. After the hiding event has finished, the chaser returns

349 through the door in the wall (~3 s) and enters the tunnel (~2 s). While the chaser is in the

350 tunnel, footsteps are heard (~4 s). The video ends before the chaser exits the tunnel. In

351 the knowledge condition, the chaser remains on the scene in the upper section and

352 positions itself centrally in front of the tunnel entrance (~2 s). Following the same sequence

353 as in the ignorance condition, the chasee walks through the tunnel (~2 s), leaves it through

354 one of the exits (left or right, counterbalanced) (~2 s) and hides in the respective box (~1

355 s). Next, in order to match the events of the ignorance condition, the chaser walks towards

356 the door in the wall (~3 s) and disappears for approximately 1 seconds. Subsequently, they

357 return to the initial position in front of the tunnel entrance (~3 s). In the meantime, the

358 chasee did not move, so that the chaser did not miss any events while they were gone.

359 Once the chaser returns it observes the chasee jump out of the first box (~1 s) and tiptoe

360 to the second box (~4 s). Finally, the chasee jumps into the second box and the lid closes

361 (~1 s). Like in the ignorance condition, the chasee and the boxes make no sound and no

362 chime is played. The chaser enters the tunnel (~2 s) and footsteps sound (~4 s). Like in the

363 ignorance condition, the video ends before the chaser exits the tunnel.

364 **Trial randomization.**   The four combinations in familiarization were the following:

365 started from the right and ended up in right box (RR); started from the right and ended

366 up in left box (RL); started from the left and ended up in right box (LR); started from the

367 left and ended up in left box (LL). The presentation of the familiarization trials will be

368 counterbalanced in two pseudo-randomized orders (familiarization order A: Fam_LR,

369 Fam_RR, Fam_LL, Fam_RL; familiarization order B: Fam_RL, Fam_LL, Fam_LR,

370 Fam_RR). As with the familiarization trials, there will be four different parallel versions of

371 the test trial for the knowledge and the ignorance condition, differing in the starting

372 location of the chasee and the box the chasee ended up (Know_RR, Know_RL,

373 Know_LR, Know_LL; Ig_RR, Ig_RL, Ig_LR, Ig_LL). Supplementary Table S2 lists the

374 combinations that will be tested. Each lab signs up for one or two trial bins (16 trial

375 combinations per bin) for each tested age group.

General Lab Practices

377 **Training of Research Assistants.**   Each participating lab is responsible for

378 maintaining the highest possible experimental standards, providing training practices for

379 all experimenters and research assistants, and following detailed, written instructions to

380 achieve uniformity and minimize variation across labs. Individual labs will document which

381 experimenter(s) and research assistant(s) will test each participant. A questionnaire will

382 serve to record and compare training practices. Greeting practices and instructions given

383 to the participant/caregiver are marked down and standardized.

384 **Reporting of Technology Mishaps and Participant/Caregiver Behavior.**

385 All labs are required to report anomalies, technical issues, concerns, and general comments

386 on the protocol sheet. For toddler samples, concerns and general comments comprise the

387 following: crying, fussiness, weariness, caregiver intervening (verbal or non-verbal, e.g.,

388 pointing), affecting or disrupting participation and/or looking behavior. Technical issues

389 include problems that hinder, pause, or stop the stimulus presentation and/or eye-tracking

390 recording.

Participant exclusion

Of the initial sample (toddlers: $N = 809$, adults: $N = 805$), participants will be excluded from the main confirmatory analyses if: They did not complete the full experiment (toddlers: $n = 26$, 3.21%; adults: $n = 0$, 0%), Participants' caregivers interfered with the procedure, e.g., by pointing at stimuli or talking to their toddler (toddlers: $n = 11$, 1.36%; adults: $n = 0$, 0%), the experimenter made an error during testing that was relevant to the procedure (toddlers: $n = 11$, 1.36%; adults: $n = 6$, 0.75%), technical problems occurred, e.g., data not saved, unable to calibrate eye-tracker, eye-tracker lost signal, data loss due to computer failure, computer crashed during recording (toddlers: $n = 69$, 8.53%; adults: $n = 61$, 7.58%). The individual labs will determine whether and to which extent participant exclusion criteria 1-4 apply and add this information to the participant protocol sheet they provide. This set of exclusions will leave a total of 703 toddlers and 736 adults whose data will be analyzed. Of these, participants will be excluded sequentially if: 5. Their data were excluded due to missingness (see Preprocessing section) from more than one familiarization trial (toddlers: $n = 112$, 13.84%; adults: $n = 24$, 2.98%), 6. Their data from the first (critical) test trial were excluded due to missingness (toddlers: $n = 54$, 6.67%; adults: $n = 9$, 1.12%). If multiple reasons for exclusion are applicable to a participant, the criteria will be assigned in the order above.

S3. Further Supplemental Information: Analysis

Secondary analysis with less informative prior

To evaluate the sensitivity of our findings to prior assumptions, we performed two Bayesian analyses for each phase (familiarization and test) and age cohort (toddlers and adults). The first analysis used weakly informative priors, reflecting modest assumptions about effect sizes and variability (as presented in the main manuscript). The second analysis employed less-informative priors, allowing for greater flexibility in parameter

416 estimation. In particular, fixed effect coefficients were modeled with a normal prior

417 (N(0,3)), and random effect standard deviations were modeled with a normal prior

418 (N(0,0.5)). See Table S2 for a summary of the results using both priors across age cohorts

419 and phases.

420   In the familiarization phase, the results were consistent and robust across both

421 toddlers and adults, regardless of the prior specification. Parameter estimates, such as the

422 effect of trial number, indicated clear evidence of learning or habituation. Bayes Factors

423 strongly favored the models over the null hypothesis, reflecting high confidence in the

424 observed effects. This consistency across weakly informative and less informative priors

425 underscores the reliability of the findings in this phase, suggesting that the observed

426 patterns are driven by the data rather than being influenced by prior assumptions.

427   The test phase for toddlers showed greater sensitivity to prior specifications. While

428 parameter estimates remained relatively stable, the Bayes Factor results were much more

429 variable, especially when evidence for the model was marginal. Under the weakly

430 informative prior, the Bayes Factor suggested modest support for the model; however, the

431 less informative prior yielded an almost negligible Bayes Factor, indicating little evidence

432 favoring the model over the null. These differences highlight the importance of careful

433 interpretation of results in contexts where the data provide only weak evidence, as

434 conclusions in such cases are more influenced by prior assumptions.

435   In the test phase for adults, the results also displayed some sensitivity to prior

436 specification, though to a lesser extent than in the toddler group. Parameter estimates

437 remained consistent, with clear evidence for an effect of condition. The Bayes Factor, while

438 robust across priors, was lower under the less informative prior compared to the weakly

439 informative one. This indicates that although the adult test phase results are reliable, the

440 strength of evidence can be moderated by the choice of priors, especially when comparing

441 models with relatively flexible assumptions.

⁴⁴² The analyses demonstrate that parameter estimates were generally robust across

⁴⁴³ prior specifications, highlighting the stability of the data-driven conclusions. However,

⁴⁴⁴ Bayes Factors were notably more sensitive to prior choices, particularly in cases where the

⁴⁴⁵ evidence for the model was less compelling, such as in the toddlers' test phase. In the

⁴⁴⁶ familiarization phase, results were strong for both toddlers and adults, regardless of prior

⁴⁴⁷ specification. In contrast, prior sensitivity was greater in the test phase, especially for

⁴⁴⁸ toddlers, where evidence for the model was weaker. These findings underscore the

⁴⁴⁹ importance of reporting analyses with multiple priors to enhance transparency and

⁴⁵⁰ robustness. They also caution against overinterpreting Bayes Factors in cases where priors

⁴⁵¹ are highly flexible or the evidence is marginal.

Table S2

Summary of Bayesian Results Across Phases and Priors.

Age Cohort	Phase	Prior	Bayes Factor	Parameter Estimates	Sensitivity
Toddlers	Familiarization	Weakly Informative	16	Intercept: 0.44, Main Effect: -0.22	Low
		Less Informative	10763	Intercept: 0.45, Main Effect: -0.23	Low
Adults		Weakly Informative	15324130	Intercept: 1.03, Main Effect: 0.38	Low
		Less Informative	>100000000	Intercept: 1.06, Main Effect: 0.40	Low
Toddlers	Test	Weakly Informative	2.5	Intercept: 0.53, Main Effect: 0.53, Interaction: -0.13	High
		Less Informative	1	Intercept: 0.57, Main Effect: 0.56, Interaction: -0.14	High
Adults		Weakly Informative	157115	Intercept: 0.05, Main Effect: -0.89	Moderate
		Less Informative	1889	Intercept: 0.06, Main Effect: -0.96	Moderate

⁴⁵² **Data collection type: in-lab vs. web-based**

⁴⁵³ In analyses introducing model terms for certain measurement characteristics (e.g.,

⁴⁵⁴ types of eye-tracker manufacturers, screen dimensions), we will quantify potential

⁴⁵⁵ variability between different in-lab data acquisition methods (cf., ManyBabies Consortium,

⁴⁵⁶ 2020). If we have a sufficiently large sample of participants tested with online sources (e.g.,

⁴⁵⁷ contributions of at least 32 participants), we will conduct a separate analysis with a model

term for online participants that estimates whether condition effects are different in this population. We will further report whether exclusion rates are different for this population.

Bayesian mixed-effects models were used to evaluate the effects of condition, method, and their interaction on anticipatory looking. The models included fixed effects for condition, method, and their interaction. For toddlers, the effect of method was small and uncertain, with the credible interval including zero, indicating no clear effect of method. The interaction between condition and method was minimal and also uncertain, suggesting no strong evidence that the effect of condition varied by method. The estimated Bayes factor comparing the full model to the null model was approximately BF = 0.7, which indicates that the data slightly favors the null model over the full model. This suggests that the predictors included in the full model do not substantially improve the explanation of the observed data compared to the null model.

For adults, the main effect of method was slightly negative but uncertain, suggesting that the method had little to no clear effect on the outcome. The interaction between condition and method was negative but with a wide credible interval crossing zero, indicating uncertainty about whether the effect of condition varied by method. The estimated Bayes factor in favor of the full model over the null model was BF = 2.9. This Bayes factor indicates that the evidence in favor of the model is modest but not strong. While the model is more likely than the null model to explain the observed data, the support is relatively weak, suggesting that the predictors in the model provide only a small improvement in explaining the data compared to the null model.

In sum, the analysis suggests that the method used (web-based vs. in-lab) does not have a strong impact on AL, as the effect of method and its interaction with condition were small and uncertain. Additionally, the results should be interpreted with caution due to the relatively small sample size for web-based data compared to in-lab data collection, which may limit the robustness of the findings.

AL as a function of differential fixation times of bear and mouse during location change of the mouse

In order to examine the effect of condition and the difference in looking times for mouse and bear during location change of the mouse on anticipatory looking, we fitted a Bayesian mixed-effects model for both age cohorts serparately. The dependent variable was the proportion of target looking. The fixed effects included the main effects of condition, the difference in fixation times of mouse and bear, and their interaction. We also included random intercepts and slopes for differences in fixation times of mouse and bear within each participant and within each lab, allowing us to account for the hierarchical structure of the data and potential variability between labs and participants.

For toddlers, the fixed effect of difference in mouse-bear looking on anticipatory looking was essentially zero, Estimate = 0, as was the interaction between condition and the difference in mouse-bear looking, Estimate = 0. These results indicate that neither the main effect of fixation time differences nor its interaction with condition meaningfully predicted anticipatory looking.

Comparing this model to a simpler model without the interaction of condition and difference in mouse-bear looking, a Bayes Factor of BF > 1000 was computed. This provides overwhelming evidence that the inclusion of condition and the difference in fixation times improves model fit. However, the individual contributions of the difference in mouse-bear looking and its interaction with condition appear negligible, as indicated by their near-zero estimates and confidence intervals.

For adults, the regression results indicated the following: The coefficient for the difference in mouse-bear looking was essentially zero, Estimate = 0, suggesting no notable effect of the difference in fixation times on anticipatory looking. Additionally, the interaction between condition and the difference in mouse-bear looking was non-significant, Estimate = 0, indicating that the relationship between condition and anticipatory looking

⁵¹⁰ did not vary meaningfully with changes in fixation time difference.

⁵¹¹   When comparing this full model with a simpler model that excluded the interaction

⁵¹² between condition and the difference in mouse-bear looking, we obtained a Bayes factor of

⁵¹³ BF = 0.0. This provides very strong evidence in favor of the simpler model, suggesting

⁵¹⁴ that the interaction between condition and fixation time difference does not substantially

⁵¹⁵ improve the model's fit. Overall, these results imply that while condition affects

⁵¹⁶ anticipatory looking, the difference in fixation times between the mouse and bear, and its

⁵¹⁷ interaction with condition, do not meaningfully contribute to the prediction of target
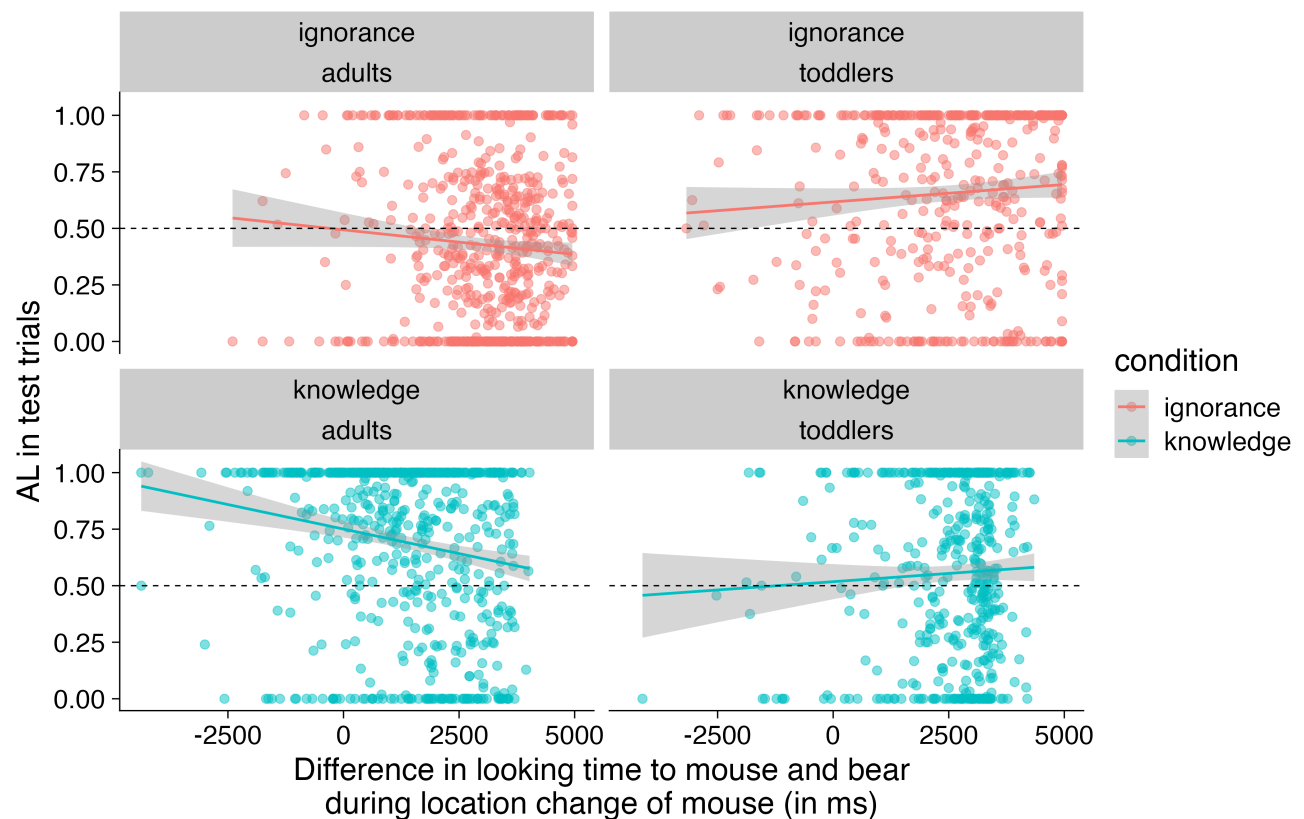
⁵¹⁸ looking behavior.

Figure S5. AL as a function of the difference in looking time to mouse and bear during location change of mouse (in ms) for each age cohort and each condition.

References

Kampis, D., & Southgate, V. (2020). Altercentric cognition: How others influence our cognitive processing. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, *24*(11), 945–959.

ManyBabies Consortium. (2020). Quantifying sources of variability in infancy research using the infant-directed-speech preference. *Advances in Methods and Practices in Psychological Science*, *3*(1), 24–52.

Schuwerk, T., Priewasser, B., Sodian, B., & Perner, J. (2018). The robustness and generalizability of findings on spontaneous false belief sensitivity: A replication attempt. *Royal Society Open Science*, *5*(5), 172273.

Southgate, V., Senju, A., & Csibra, G. (2007). Action anticipation through attribution of false belief by 2-year-olds. *Psychological Science*, *18*(7), 587–592.