Theory of Mind (ToM) Booklet Task

Available Materials
1. <u>ToM Booklet Scripts:</u> ToM Booklet 1 is made up of two stories, one about children finding their books in school, and a second about a family playing at a park. ToM booklet 2 is made up of a single story about children finding their snacks in school. ToM booklet 2 has additionally been modified for testing 3-4 year old children; items and questions that were excluded for the purposes of testing younger children are denoted in the script with an asterisk*.

2. <u>ToM Booklet Example administration:</u> This movie shows an entire testing session using each of the booklets. As is visible in the example movies, this task is administered as a picture booklet with movable flaps and magnet pieces. All illustrations have been made publically available, such that anyone can create their own copy of the booklet task. (Creating the booklet will require purchasing a binder, laminating the illustrations, and cutting and taping/hot gluing the magnets/pieces/flaps).

3. <u>Example coding spreadsheet:</u> This spreadsheet provides a format for coding this task. Further coding instructions are included in the spreadsheet; see also the open datasets for all of our coding decisions.

4. <u>ToM Booklet Examples:</u> This document includes examples of correct and incorrect responses to a few different kinds of items.

Note: The questions that were asked and coded were altered slightly across different projects in our group, based on pilot data with a given age, or experience with the task. If anything is unclear or confusing, please don't hesitate to reach out to Hilary with questions.

Instructions
1. <u>Choose which booklet(s) to administer for your project.</u> ToM Booklet 1 was designed for testing 5-10 year old children. ToM Booklet 2 was designed for testing 5–12-year-old children, and modified for testing 3–4-year-old children.

2. <u>Memorize/familiarize yourself with the ToM booklet script.</u> For all data shared in the open datasets, experimenters memorized the ToM booklet script for administration. This enabled the experimenter to administer the task more naturalistically, as if they were telling a story, and focus on the child rather than on reading a script. More recently, we cut out the script for each page and tape it to the back of the previous page, such that, if/when necessary, the experimenter can reference it. We still advise being very familiar with the script prior to administration, such that the testing experience feels more naturalistic and less scripted.

3. <u>Task administration.</u>
   1. Use appropriately slow and child-directed speech. Make sure to practice, such that your administration is consistent across children (and, if applicable, such that administration is consistent across different experimenters). Practicing out-loud is the best way to memorize the script.

   2. When asking forced choice questions, be mindful of pointing to both options equally ("Will he choose to play on the swings (point), or the slide (point)").

   3. Administration of this task requires a quiet testing room with minimal distractions. Parents and siblings of the participant should be advised that silence is necessary, and moved to a separate room if possible. We found that while toys and prizes are too distracting and should be removed during administration, many children (ages 5+ years) can complete the task while snacking. Use your discretion; if a child is not paying attention, take a break and try to resume the task when he or she is ready.

4. Administration of this task requires use of a video camera, such that the entire testing session is captured. This is important for offline coding. Always repeat the child's answers verbatim, so that the offline coder can transcribe the child's response.