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Academic Appointments

Consulting Experiences

Northwestern University School of Education and Social Policy Postdoctoral Researcher 2017-current Center for Elementary Mathematics + Science Education Everyday Math Curriculum Consultant 2010-2013

Loyola University Chicago Department of Psychology Instructor 2014-2017 Urban Education Institute +
Ounce of Prevention Fund
Birth-to-College Partnership
Case Study Author
2009-2011

University of Chicago Spatial Intelligence + Learning Center Director of Education Research 2010-2014 University of Illinois-Chicago Learning Sciences Research Institute Visiting Research Specialist 2008-2009

Education

University of Chicago, PhD Psychology, 2009

Indiana University, BA
Psychology + East Asian Languages, 2003

Publications

- Wakefield, E.M., Foley, A., Ping, R., Villarreal, J., Goldin-Meadow, S. & Levine, S.C. (2019). Breaking down gesture and action in mental rotation: Understanding the components of movement that promote learning. *Developmental Psychology*. doi: 10.1037/dev/0000697
- Mix, K., Levine, S.C., Cheng., Y.-L., Young, C., Hambrick, D.Z., Ping, R., & Konstantopoulos, S. (2016). Separate but correlated: The latent structure of space and mathematics across development. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General, 145*(9), 1206-1227. doi: 10.1037/xge0000182
- Gentner, D., Levine, S.C., Ping, R., Isaia, A. Dhillon, S., Bradley, C. & Honke, G. (2016).
 Rapid learning in a children's museum via analogical comparison. *Cognitive Science, 40,* 224-240. doi: 10.1111/cogs.12248
- Smith, L., Ping, R., Miller, B.J., Goldwater, M.B., Gentner, D. & Levine, S.C. (2014).

 Mechanisms of spatial learning: Teaching children geometric categories. *Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence*, 8684, 325-337. doi: 10.1007/978-3-319-11215-2_23
- Ping, R., Goldin-Meadow, S. & Beilock, S. Understanding gesture: Is the listener's motor system involved? (2014). *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General, 143*(1), 195-204. doi: 10.1037/a0032246

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- Ping, R., Decatur, M., Larson, S.W., Zinchenko, E. & Goldin-Meadow, S. (2012).

 Gesture-speech mismatch predicts who will learn to solve an organic chemistry problem.

 Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association.
- Radinsky, J., Ping, R., Hospelhorn, E. & Goldman, S. (2012). Making the absent present: Improvised representational fields in students' negotiations of meaning with GIS (Geographic Information System) Tools. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association*.
- Ping, R., Ratliff, K., Hickey, E. & Levine, S. (2011). Using manual rotation and gesture to improve mental rotation in preschoolers. In L. Carlson, C. Hölscher & T. Shipley (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 33rd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 459-464). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.
- Ping, R.M. & Goldin-Meadow, S. (2010). Gesturing saves cognitive resources when talking about non-present objects. *Cognitive Science*, *34*(4), 602-619. doi: 10.1111/j.1551-6709.2010.01102.x
- Radinsky, J., Goldman, S., Doherty, R. & Ping, R. M. (2010). Small group argumentation with visual data: Negotiating what is seen and what it means. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association.*
- Ping, R.M., Nash, R. & Wing, L. (2010). Working together to build a birth-to-college approach to public education: Teaching Case Study commissioned by Urban Education Institute and Ounce of Prevention.
- Ping, R.M., Dhillon, G.S. & Beilock, S.L. (2009). Reach for what you like: The body's role in shaping preferences. *Emotion Review*, 1(2), 140-150. doi: 10.1177/1754073908100439
- Ping, R.M. & Goldin-Meadow, S. (2008). Hands in the air: Using ungrounded iconic gestures to teach children conservation of quantity. *Developmental Psychology, 44*(5), 1277-1287. doi: 10.1037/0012-1649.44.5.1277
- Ping, R.M. & Goldin-Meadow, S. (2006). Gesturing in the air: Children learn from gestures not grounded in the here-and-now. In R. Sun & N. Miyake (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 26th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 675-678). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.
- Yoshida, H., Smith, L.B., Ping, R.M. & Davis, E.L. (2002). How are speech and gesture related? In W. Gray & C. Schunn (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 24th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 966-969). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.

Publications in Progress

Ping, R., Church, R.B., Decatur, M-A., Larson, S.W., Zinchenko, E. & Goldin-Meadow, S. (under

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revision). Unpacking the gestures of chemistry learners: What the hands tell us about correct and incorrect conceptions of stereochemistry. *Discourse Processes*.

Paper Presentations

- Gentner, D., Goldwater, M.B., Levine, S.C., Ping, R., Isaia, A., Honke, G. & Bradley, C. (2015). Spatial learning and spatial comparison combine to support children's learning. The 6th International Conference on Spatial Cognition, Rome.
- Levine, S.C., Ping, R., Petersen, L.A., Khetarpal, N., Pruden, S.M., Schiffman, J. & Pinchuk, R. (2015). Variations in parents' spatial language predict children's spatial skill: Relation to child gender. The 6th International Conference on Spatial Cognition, Rome.
- Ping, R., Schiffman, J., Khetarpal, N. & Levine, S.C. (2015). Putting the pieces together: Parent spatial language scaffolding for boys and girls during puzzle play. Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Philadelphia.
- Ping, R., Goldin-Meadow, S. & Stieff, M. (2014). Gestures reflect and shape knowledge in complex organic chemistry tasks. International Society for Gesture Studies Conference, San Diego.
- Ping, R., Khetarpal, N., Schiffman, J. & Levine, S.C. (2014). A systematic investigation of parent scaffolding during spatial play for boy and girl children. NSF Inter-Science of Learning Center Conference, Pittsburgh.
- Matlen, B.J., Smith, L.A., Ping, R., Goldwater, M.B., Levine, S.C. & Gentner, D. (2013). Comparison and contrast in young children's shape categorization. 6th Annual Inter-Science of Learning Center Student and Postdoc Annual Conference, Philadelphia.
- Ping, R., Young, C.J., Ratliff, K., Schiffman, J. & Levine, S.C. (2012). Tracing the development of cross-sectioning ability in three- to nine-year old children. The 5th International Conference on Spatial Cognition, Rome.
- Gentner, D., Levine, S. C., Goldwater, M. & Ping, R. (2012). Spatial alignment and spatial language contribute to learning about engineering. The 5th International Conference on Spatial Cognition, Rome.
- Goldin-Meadow, S., Ping, R., Decatur, M., Larson, S. & Zinchenko, E. (2012). Gesture predicts readiness-to-learn in adults learning a complex spatial task. The 5th International Conference on Spatial Cognition, Rome.
- Levine, S.C., Congdon, E., Kwon, M. & Ping, R. (2012). The role of embodiment in children's understanding of units of measure. The 5th International Conference on Spatial Cognition, Rome.

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- Gunderson, E.A., Ping, R., Ramirez, G., Bradley, C., Beilock, S.L. & Levine, S. C. (2012). Teacher spatial anxiety: Consequences and relief. Annual Convention of Association for Psychological Science, Chicago.
- Ping, R., Decatur, M., Larson, S.W., Zinchenko, E. & Goldin-Meadow, S. (2012).

 Gesture-speech mismatch predicts who will learn to solve an organic chemistry problem.

 Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Vancouver.
- Radinsky, J., Ping, R., Hospelhorn, E. & Goldman, S. (2012). Making the absent present: Improvised representational fields in students' negotiation of meaning with GIS. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Vancouver.
- Ping, R., Ratliff, K., Hickey, E. & Levine, S. (2011). Using manual rotation and gesture to improve mental rotation in preschoolers. 33rd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Boston.
- Ping, R., Larson, S., Decatur, M., Zinchenko, E. & Goldin-Meadow, S. (2011). The relationship between gesture and speech predicts who will learn to solve an organic chemistry problem. 4th Annual inter-Science of Learning Center Student and Postdoc Conference, Washington, DC.
- Ping, R.M., Dhillon, G.S. & Beilock, S.L. (2008). The motor system's role in object preference. Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago.
- Ping, R.M. & Goldin-Meadow, S. (2006). Gesturing in the air: Children learn from gestures not grounded in the here-and-now. Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Vancouver.

Posters

- Kazi, M., Brylak, J., Church, R.B., Dupaya, K., Parrill, F., Ping, R., & Rutsum, H. (2016). The effect of action-based instruction on learning a chemistry concept. Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention, Chicago.
- Cheng, Y.-L., Mix, K., Levine, S.C., Young, C. & Ping, R. (2013). The relationships between space and math: A MIMIC model approach. Biennial meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Memphis.
- Smith, L., Ping, R.M., Goldwater, M.B., Matlen, B.J., Levine, S.C. & Gentner, D. (2013). Comparison and contrast in young children's shape categorization. Annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Berlin.
- Ping, R.M., Bradley, C., Rayman-Kinney, J. & Levine, S.C. (2013). Parent use of spatial language with boy and girl children during puzzle play. Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Seattle.

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- Smith, L., Ping, R.M., Goldwater, M., Matlen, B., Levine, S.C. & Gentner, D. (2013). Comparison and contrast in young children's shape categorization. Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Seattle.
- Congdon, E.L., Kwon, M.K., Ping, R., & Levine, S.C. (2012). The efficacy of using gesture versus objects in improving children's understanding of linear measurement. The 5th International Society for Gesture Studies Conference, Lund.
- Congdon, E.L., Gibson, D., Ping, R.M. & Levine, S.C. (2012). Spatial language and early geometry: Using mutual exclusivity to teach young children about angles. Inter-Science of Learning Centers Conference, San Diego.
- Ping, R.M., Bradley, C., Gunderson, E.A., Ramirez, G., Beilock, S.L., Levine, S. C. (2011). Alleviating anxiety about spatial ability in elementary school teachers. 33rd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Boston.
- Ping, R.M., Larson, S., Decatur, M., Zinchenko, E. & Goldin-Meadow, S. (2011). The relationship between gesture and speech predicts who will learn to solve a chemistry problem. 33rd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Boston.
- Hickey, E., Bradley, C., Krakowski, M., Ratliff, K. R., Gomez, L. M., Ping, R., & Levine, S. C. (2011). Using teacher work circles to improve spatial learning in the classroom. Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Montreal.
- Congdon, E.L., Kwon, M., Ping, R. & Levine, S.C. (2011). The Role of gesture versus action in improving children's understanding of linear measurement. The Biennial Cognitive Development Society Conference.
- Larson, S., Ping, R.M., Zinchenko, E., Decatur, M. & Goldin-Meadow, S. (2010). Adult gesture-speech mismatch predicts learning on a mental rotation task. International Conference for Spatial Cognition, Mt. Hood, Oregon.
- Ping, R.M. & Goldin-Meadow, S. (2009). Gesturing lightens the cognitive load of talking about non-present objects. Biannual Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Denver.
- Ping, R.M., Dhillon, G.S. & Beilock, S.L. (2008). The motor system's role in object likeability. Annual Convention of the Association for Psychological Science, Chicago.
- Ping, R.M., Goldin-Meadow, S., Santana, H.C., Jr. & Sarfaty, A.E. (2008). Gesturing saves cognitive resources for children speaking about present or absent objects. Annual Convention of the Association for Psychological Science, Chicago
- Ping, R.M., Goldin-Meadow, S. & Decatur, M.V. (2007) Gesture, cognitive load, and non-visible objects. Biannual Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Boston.

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Reviews

Child Development, Cognition, Cognition & Instruction, Cognitive Science, Cognitive Processing, Developmental Psychology, Gesture, Journal of Experimental Child Psychology, Journal of Nonverbal Behavior, Psychological Science, Psychonomic Bulletin & Review, Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology, TopiCS

Courses Taught

Developmental Psychology, Research Methods in Psychology, Labs in Developmental or Cognitive Psychology, Psychological Statistics, Cognitive Psychology, Educational Psychology

Honors / Awards

David Marr Prize-Nominated Paper, Cognitive Science Society	2002
National Institutes of Health Developmental Psychology Training Grant	2004-2007
Century Fellowship for Graduate Study	2003-2004
Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship	2001-2003
Doolittle Graduate Research Travel Award	2006
Cognitive Science Society Travel Award	2006
Psychology Graduate Student Organization Peer Award for Travel	2006-2007

Invited Talks

Department of Psychology, Binghamton University (State Univ of New York)
Developmental Psychology Program, Loyola University Chicago
Developmental Psychology Seminar, University of California-Riverside
Child Development Program, California State University-Dominguez Hills
Spatial Analogy and Language Learning Group, Northwestern University
Spatial Intelligence Learning Group, Temple University
Spatial Learning in Early Math Invited Lecture Series, Everyday Mathematics,
Center for Elementary Mathematics and Science Education, Chicago
Graduate Student Parent Group, University of Chicago
Math Curriculum Group meetings, Parkwood Elementary School