

# The Babylab, Centre for Brain and Cognitive Development

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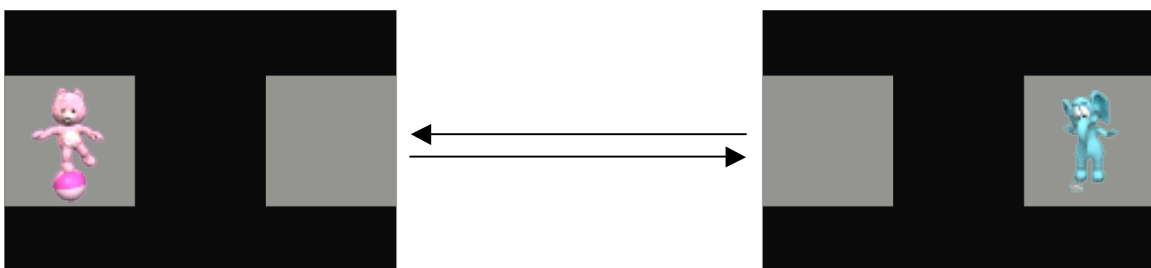
## The Anticipation Study

The Anticipation Study looks at young babies' ability to anticipate events. We present colourful animations on a large screen with a black background. Each animation is positioned in the middle of a grey square on either the right or the left side of the screen. The two squares are always present so the babies know where to look for the animations.

The animations are presented in a fixed right-left pattern; that is, when an animation has appeared in the grey box on the right side of the screen, the next animation will always appear in the grey box on the left side of the screen. There is a short break between the animations where the screen is blank apart from the grey squares. This break is always of the same duration (a bit less than a second), so everything in the way the animations are presented is completely predictable.

In previous studies it has been shown that babies as young as 3-4 months of age are able to learn to anticipate where the next event will occur – for example where the next animation will appear. Since babies generally like to look at colourful, moving things like animations, they will gradually start looking at the location where they expect the next event before this event actually happens.

We believe that the ability to anticipate things is an important part of children's development. We are therefore very interested in how this ability is related to other abilities that emerge during infancy and to skills that children attain later in development.



Thank you for participating in this study!