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Authors

Yu, Yue
Su, Yanjie
Chan, Raymond

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Preschooler's Performance in Three Visual Perspective Taking Tasks

Yue Yu

Department of Psychology and Yuanpei College, Peking University

Yanjie Su

Department of Psychology and Yuanpei College, Peking University

Raymond Chan

Neuropsychology and Applied Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory, Key Laboratory of Mental Health, Institute of Psychology, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Abstract: Previous studies suggested that visual perspective taking (VPT) requires spatial computation (transformation) and solving conflict between reality and imagination (interference). The current study examined how these two processes may influence preschoolers' performance in different VPT tasks. Eighty-four 3-5-year-old children and 8 adult controls completed three VPT tasks, where different conditions were set to manipulate the requirement to perform transformation and to solve interference. The result showed that 4-year-olds could solve the interference between reality and imagination, but the immature spatial computation ability remained a confining factor throughout preschool years and prevented children from passing more complex VPT tasks.