

Cognition Colloquium

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How humans learn language

Language is the most sophisticated communication system in the known universe, yet children learn it before they can tie their shoelaces. To study how we acquire such a complex system so quickly requires a multi-disciplinary approach, combining techniques from computer science, neuroscience, linguistics and psychology; it requires a cross-cultural approach, comparing acquisition across very different languages; and it requires a developmental approach, discovering how children's language changes with age. In this session we cover some of our recent findings on language development, illustrating the insights they have given us into how the human brain learns language.



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Meeting ID: 935 2603 0034 Passcode: 250171