

Word comprehension and multilingualism among toddlers: A study using touch screens in daycares

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Do all children learn words in the same way?

- During the firsts years of life there is individual variation regarding lexical acquisition.
 - SES
 - Bilingual / Multilingual children

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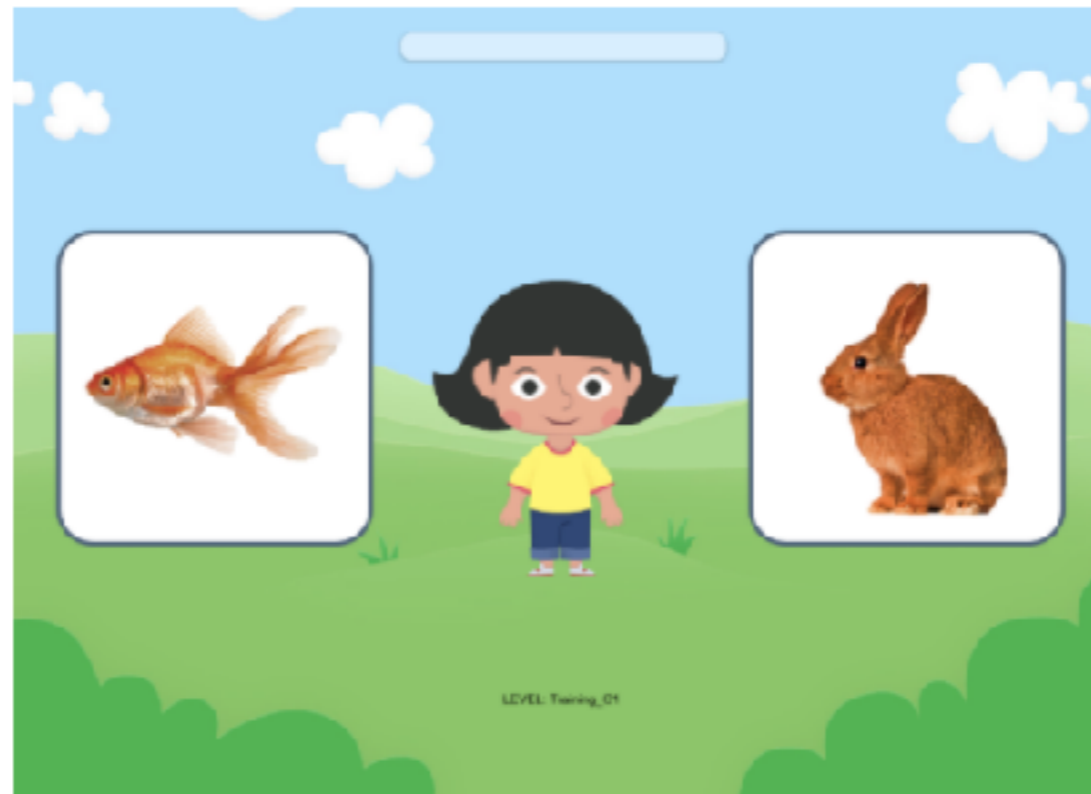
- Bilingual children
 - Bilingual typically score lower than monolingual on vocabulary tests targeting only their **common language**.
 - One recent study using touch-screen test on **both spoken** languages, found that Canadian 2-year-old bilinguals' performance in the common language did not differ.
 - Recent studies show that touch-screen tasks are a **more accurate** index of children's vocabulary.

Do multilingual and monolingual toddlers recognize words similarly when tested with touch screens?

- We tested monolingual, bilingual, and multilingual French toddlers on their *common language* using a touch-screen task.
- Toddlers were tested in their daycares.

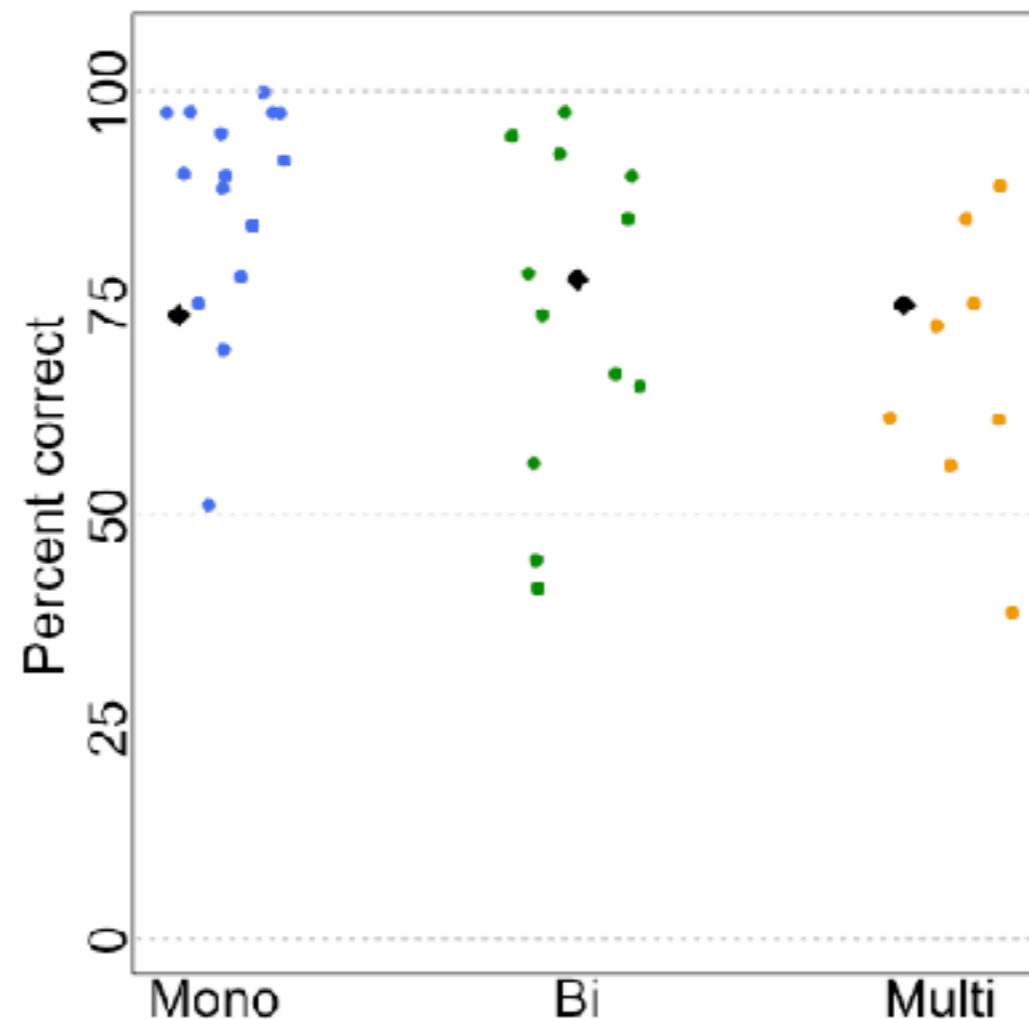
Method

- 35 children (monolingual $n = 15$; bilingual $n = 12$; multilingual $n = 8$; M age = 2;8, range 1;11-3;4).



Do multilingual and monolingual toddlers recognize words similarly when tested with touch screens?

- Monolinguals have higher accuracies than bilinguals.



Thank you