**PROCEDURE**

Emotion display (20 sec video)$^1$
- 6-yr-old child *OR* adult woman; 2 neutral toys (*target* and *distracter*).
- Condition 1: Adult fear of target toy.
- Condition 2: Child fear of target toy.

Toys and sides counterbalanced.

Play period (30 secs).
- After each trial.

**Measures**
- Proportion touch duration to each toy (*target*, *distracter*).

**RESULTS**

Did an adult’s fear alter infants’ play with the toys?

Did a child’s fear alter infants’ play with the toys?

**CONCLUSIONS**

- 12-month-olds did *not* systematically alter their play with a novel toy when they saw an older child display fear towards it.
- 12-month-olds did *tend* to alter their play with a novel toy when they saw an adult display fear towards it.
- Infants’ use of peers’ emotions to govern their behavior with novel objects appears to develop later than their ability to use adults’ emotions.
- Further studies are needed to establish whether infants’ understanding of other children’s emotions develops in concert with other peer interaction skills over the second year of life.

References