

Acting on Objects: Integrating Visual and Motor Processes 18-24 months

Sandra Street

Indiana University

Linda Smith

Indiana University

Abstract: Recent findings indicate substantial changes between the ages of 18- and 24-months in childrens integration of object properties with their actions on objects. Here we report new results from shape sorting and posting tasks in an attempt to understanding how motor and visual developments (or their combination) may contribute to this period of rapid development. Toddlers aged 18-months participated in four experiments involving inserting objects into openings. Results suggest that the key developmental achievements reside not in visual or motor developments alone, but in their integration.