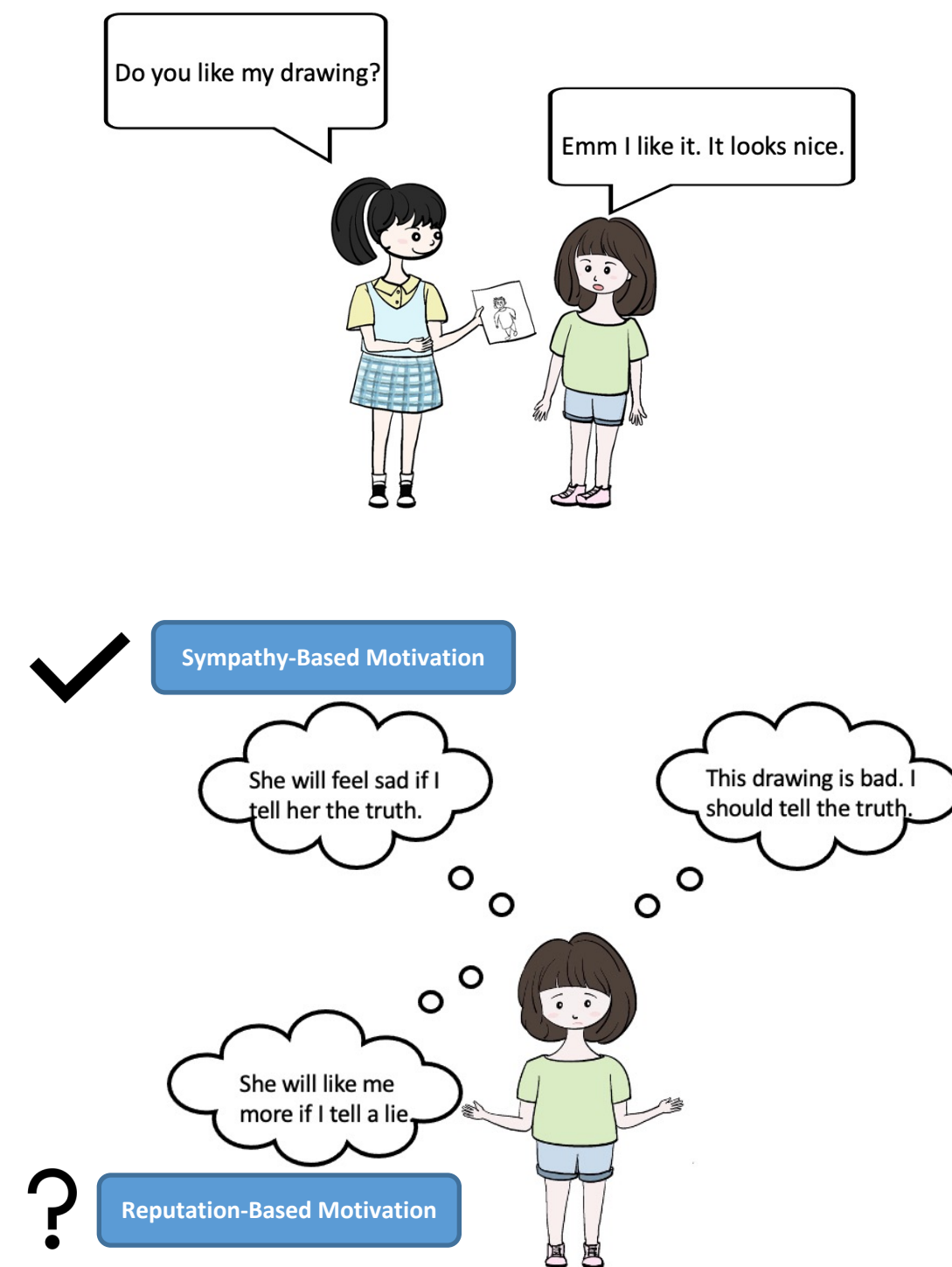




Introduction

- Children start to use prosocial behaviors to maintain a good reputation of themselves from 5 years of age (Grueneisen & Warneken, 2022).
- Prosocial lying is one type of prosocial behavior.
- Do children tell prosocial lies to gain good reputations?



Hypothesis

Children will be less likely to tell prosocial lies when there is no reputational gain by doing so.

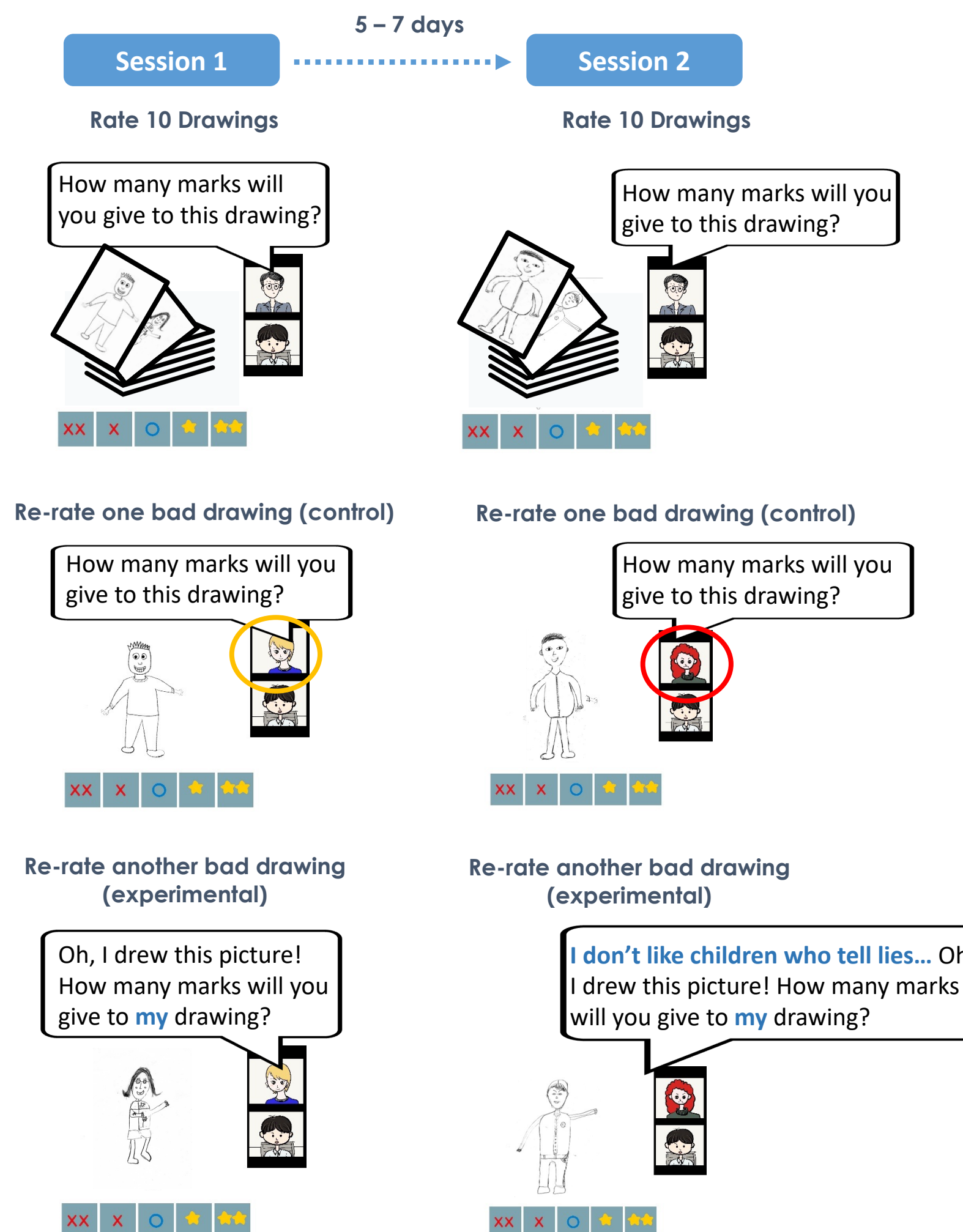
Methods

Participants

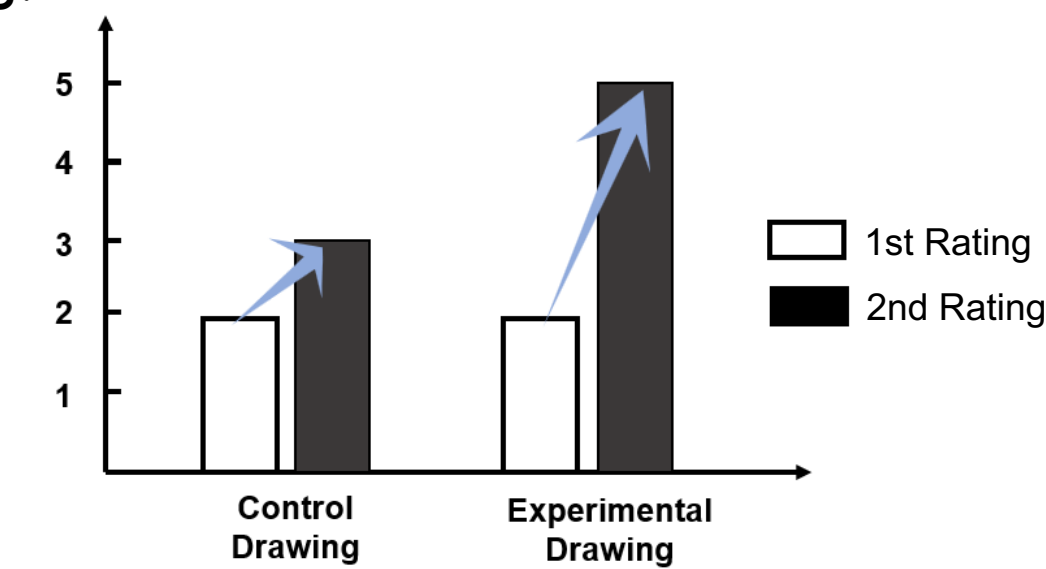
A total of 50 children aged 4 to 6 ($M = 67.1$ months, $SD = 9.6$, 54% girls) participated.

Procedure

Prosocial Lying Task



Prosocial lying is operationalized as **a greater increase** in ratings for the **experimental drawing** than for the **control drawing**.

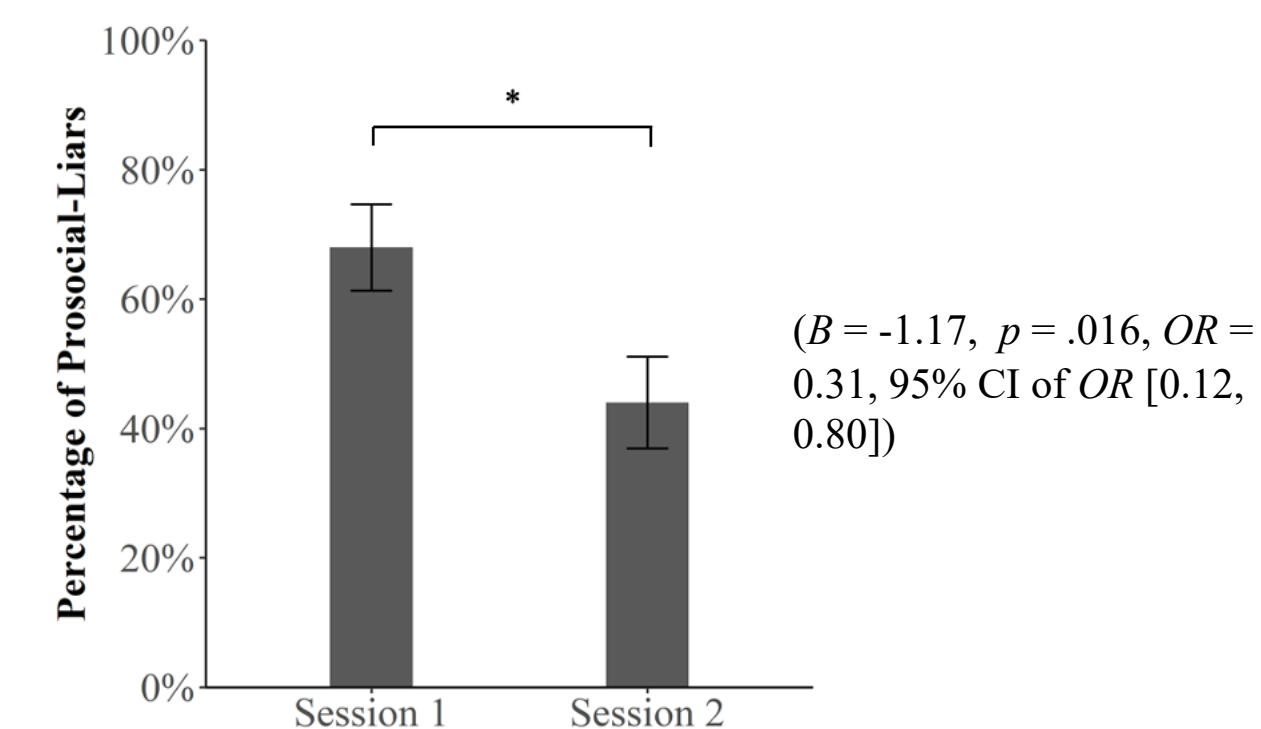


Intuitive Thinking Task

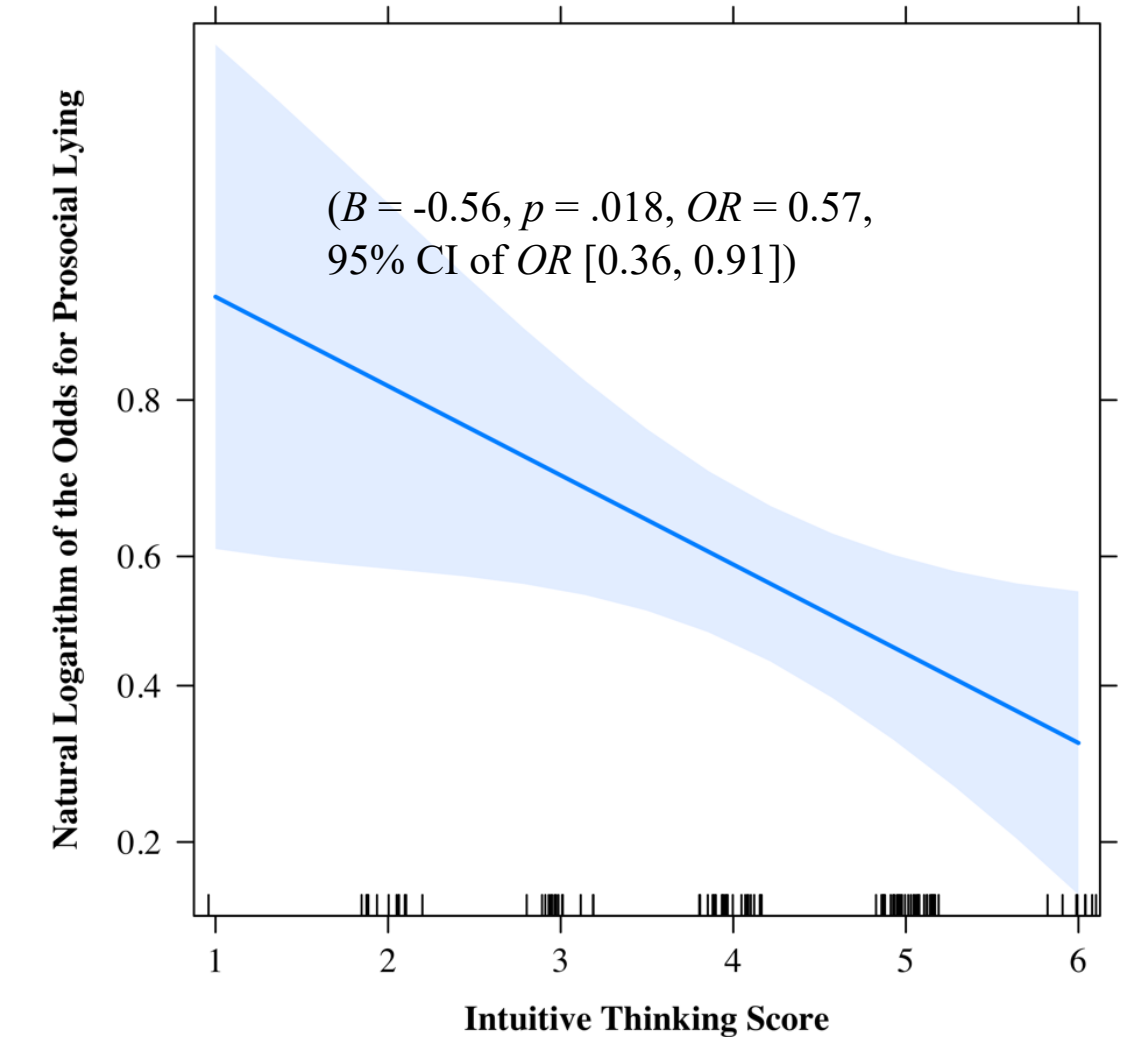
7 problems in total. E.g., Which one weighs more? 1kg of rocks or 1kg of feathers?

Results

- Mixed-effect logistic regression models were used.
- No significant interaction between Session and children's intuitive thinking.
- Children were less likely to lie in the 2nd session than in the 1st session.



- Children who adopt intuitive thinking more were less likely to tell prosocial lies in both sessions.



Discussion & Conclusion

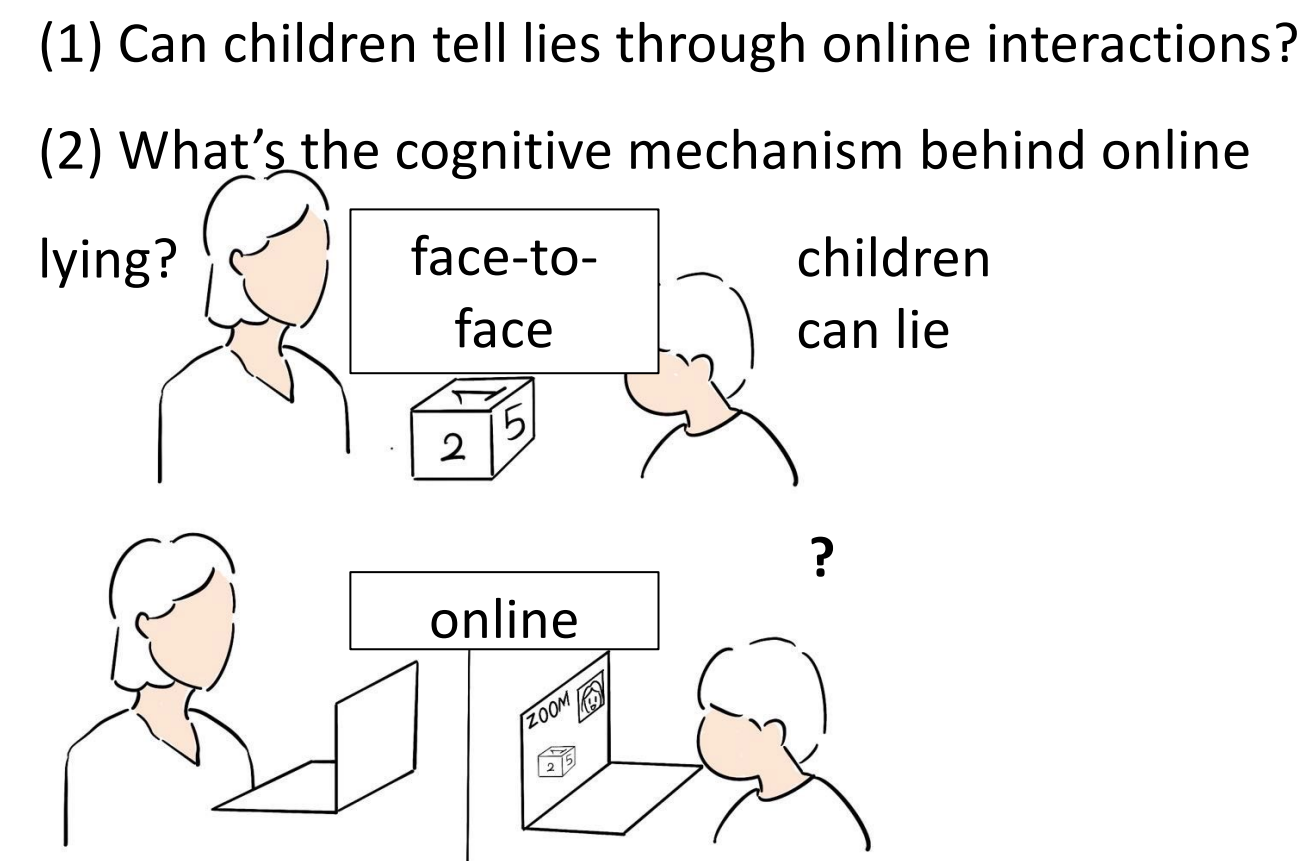
- Children begin to adjust their prosocial lying according to contexts for reputation management purposes from age 4.
- Children who adopt intuitive thinking may emphasize honesty more in prosocial moral dilemmas.

References

- Fu, G., & Lee, K. (2007). Social grooming in the kindergarten: The emergence of flattery behavior. *Developmental Science*, 10(2), 255–265. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-7687.2007.00583.x>
- Grueneisen, S., & Warneken, F. (2022). The development of prosocial behavior—From sympathy to strategy. *Current Opinion in Psychology*, 43, 323–328. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.copsyc.2021.08.005>

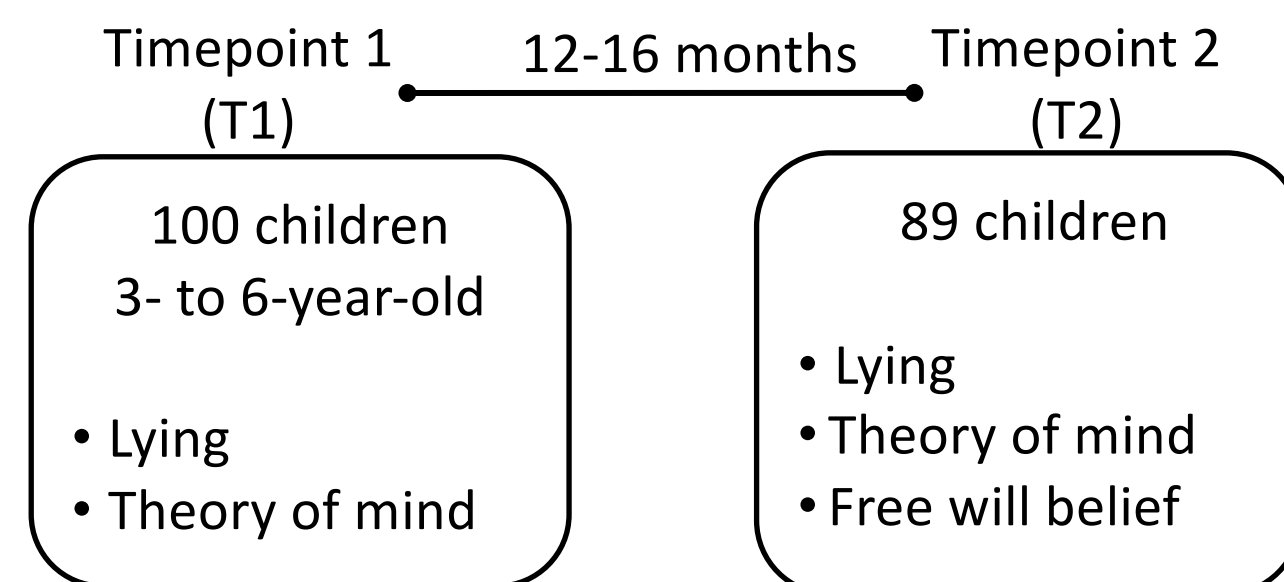
Background

- There are scant studies on how online platforms/interactions change children's social life, especially in their daily use of lies.
- Question:

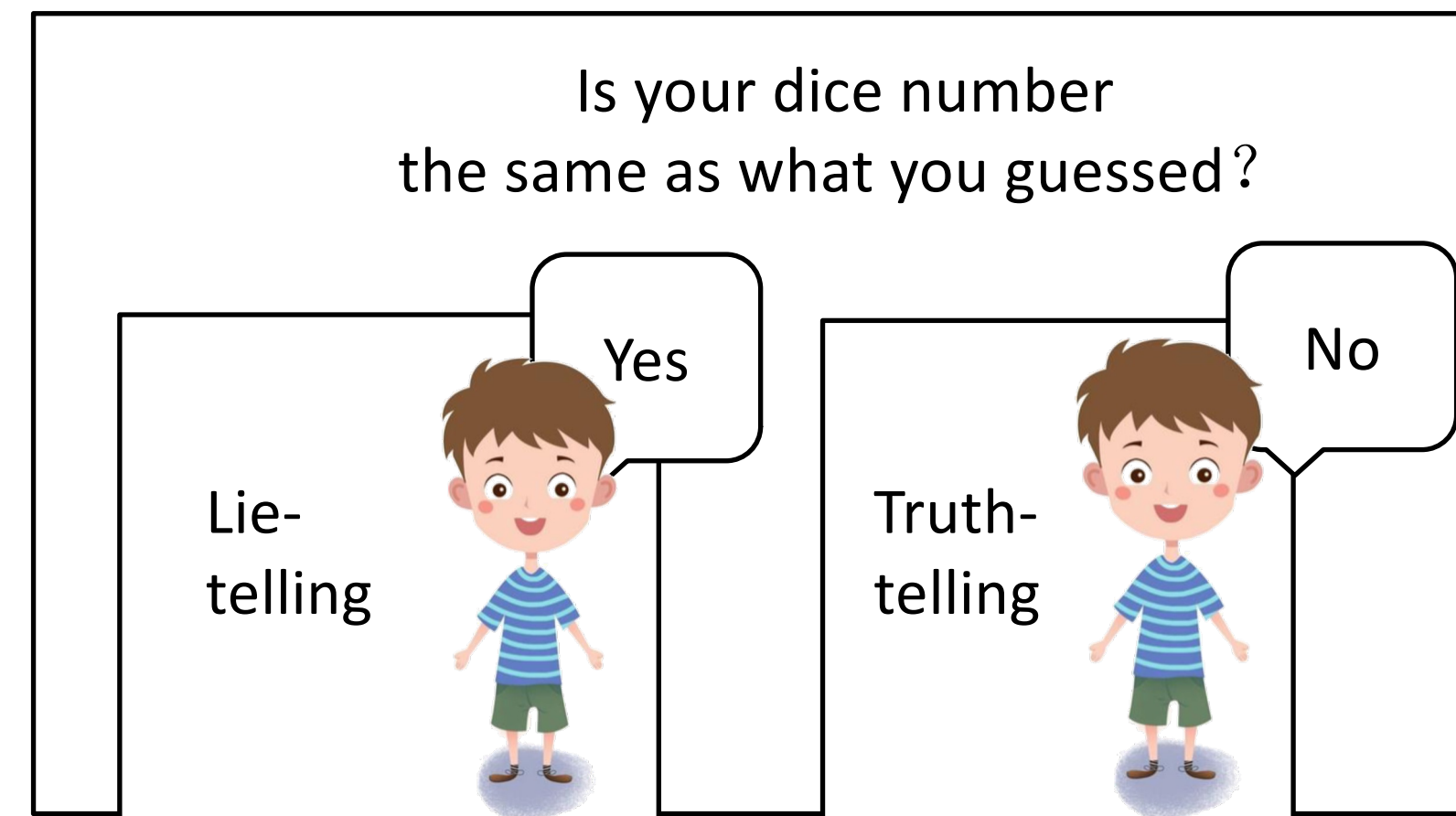


Methods

- The study used a longitudinal method to test children's online lying, theory of mind (ToM), and free will belief (Zhao et al., 2021).



Online Lying Paradigm (zoom)



Free will belief

The belief regarding the freedom of choice (the ability to do otherwise; Zhao et al., 2021)

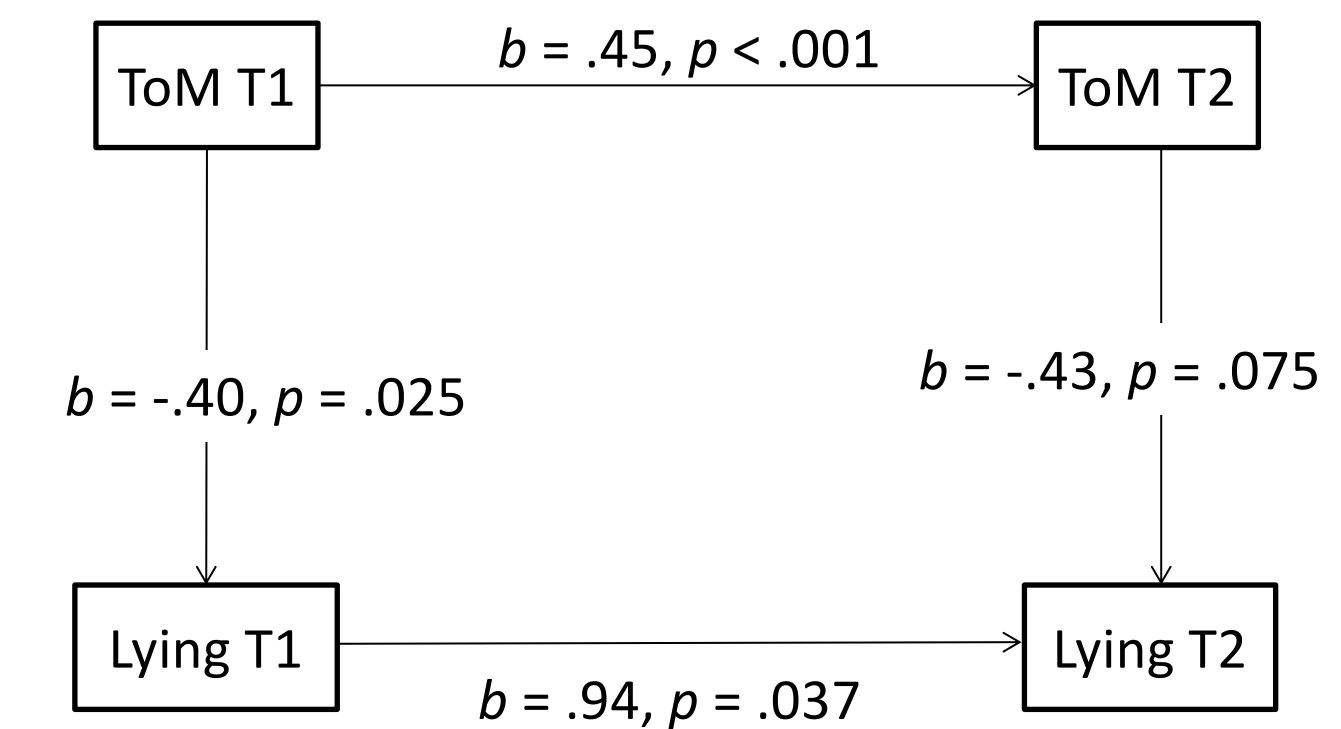


Reference

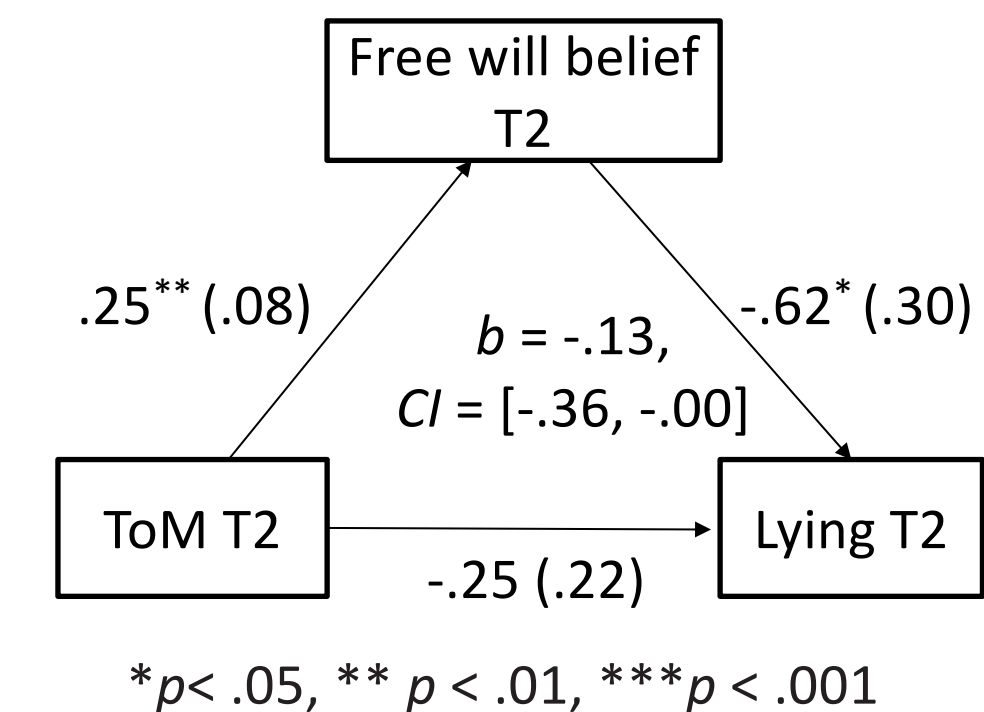
Zhao, X., Wenthe, A., Flecha, M. F., Galvan, D. S., Gopnik, A., & Kushnir, T. (2021). Culture moderates the relationship between self-control ability and free will beliefs in childhood. *Cognition*, 210, 104609.

Results

- Online lying at T1 significantly predicted online lying at T2.



- Free will belief significantly mediated the effect of ToM on online lying at T2.



Conclusion

- Children have the ability and tendency to tell lies through online interactions.
- Children's online lying is stable across time.
- Children's free will belief mediated the relationship between ToM and online lying.

Effectiveness of Indirect Goal Priming on Children's Honesty

Xiao Pan Ding*, Sharon Yilin Hoe, Alyssa Su Lyn Yap, & Qiqi Cheng

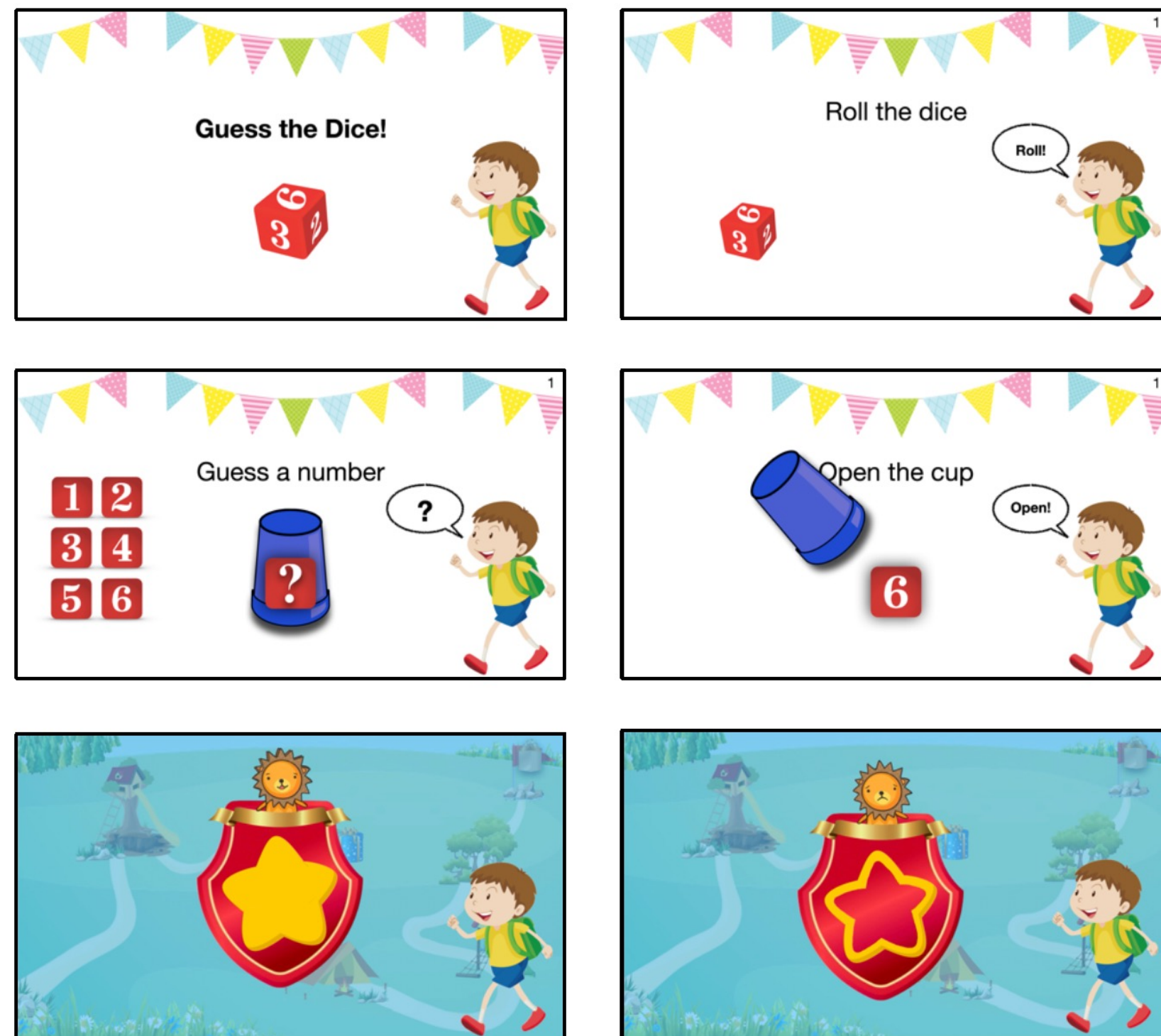
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Background

- Studies have explored different verbal and environmental techniques to promote children's honesty (Lee et al, 2004; Zhao et al., 2021)
- None of studies examined individual differences of accepting these honesty promoting techniques.
- Question: Are children with an intuitive thinking style more likely to accept verbal priming and adjust their honest behaviour?

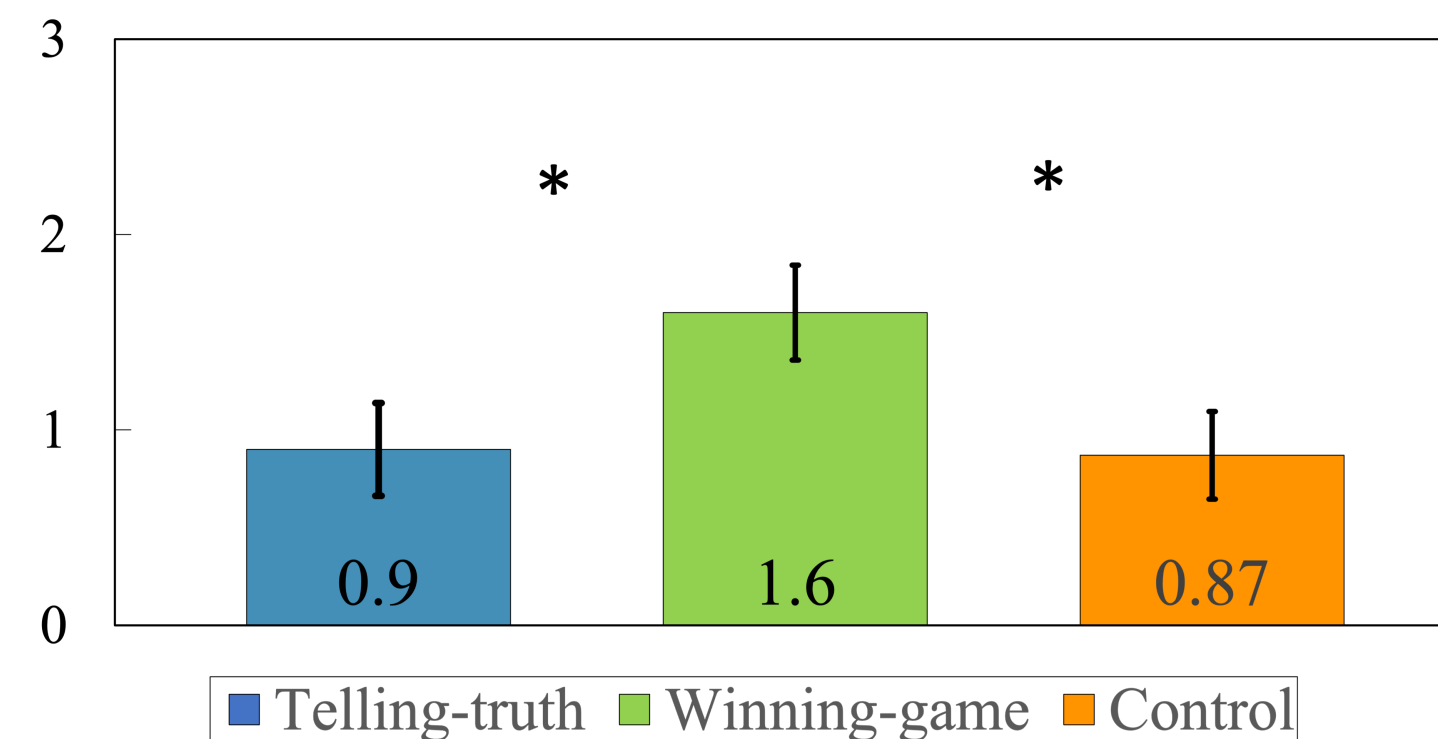
Lying Paradigm (zoom)



Study 1 (pre-registered)

- Participants**
Ninety 5- and 6-year-old Singaporean children
- Research design**
Telling-truth condition: *Why should a good child tell the truth?*
Winning-game condition: *Why should a good child win the game?*
Control condition: *Why should a good child like to read?*
- Secondary measures**
Cognitive Reflection Test, Stroop, Backward Digit Span
- Results**

Figure 1: Lying Frequency by Condition

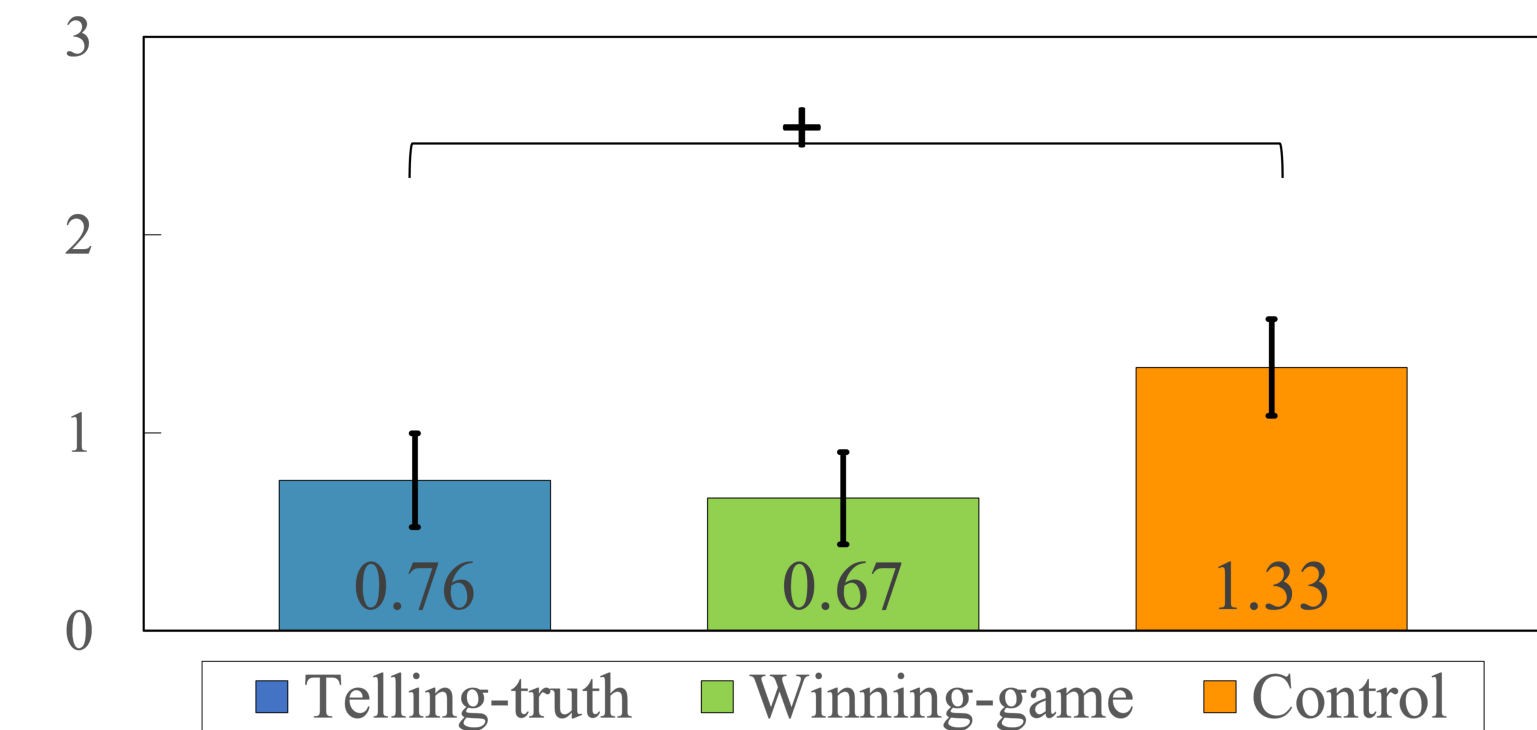


Hierarchical linear regression results showed lying frequency was significantly positively associated with children's intuitive thinking style in the Winning-game condition ($B = .50, p = .002$), but not in the other conditions.

Study 2 (pre-registered)

- Participants**
One hundred thirty-eight 5- and 6-year-old Singaporean children
- Research design**
Telling-truth condition: *Is it better to tell the truth or to tell lies?*
Winning-game condition: *Is it better to win or to lose?*
Control condition: *Is it better to draw or to read?*
- Secondary measures**
Cognitive Reflection Test, Stroop
- Results**

Figure 2: Lying Frequency by Condition



Intuitive thinking style predicted lying frequency negatively in the Telling-truth condition ($B = -.31, p = .031$), but not the other conditions.

Conclusion

- Indirect goal priming can alter children's honesty
- Intuitive thinking style can predict the effectiveness of this priming.