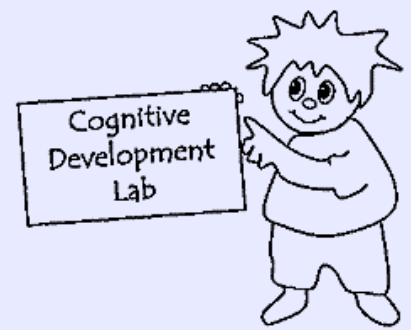


University of Waterloo CDL's



# Featured Research



**Have you wondered how  
children learn how to repair  
miscommunication?**

Slide through post for more details



# The study

A new study from our lab investigated 4- and 5-year-old children's ability to use nonverbal cues from someone they are speaking with to figure out whether or not their message was understood.





# Results

Bacso et al. (2021) found that children were able to tell if their message was successful based on the recipient's facial expression.

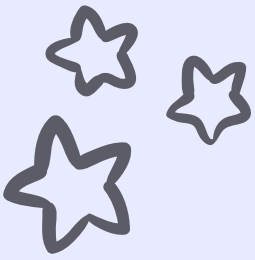
They also found that children with better cognitive skills (executive functioning and emotion knowledge) were better able to know when they were misunderstood and were more likely to attempt to fix what they said (when they were misunderstood).



# Implications

Findings have implications for our understanding of how children become effective speakers and for practical interventions to improve children's communication skills.





# THANK YOU FOR READING!

- The link to the full article
- For more information about research in the Cognitive Development Lab [click here](#)

Bacso, S. A., Nilsen, E. S., & Silva, J. (2021). How to turn that frown upside down: Children make use of a listener's facial cues to detect and (attempt to) repair miscommunication. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 207, Article 105097.

