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The Aims and Work of "Kleinkindforschung in Thüringen" at the University of Erfurt

In my talk I will describe the research work that is carried out by "Kleinkindforschung in Thüringen" at the University of Erfurt. The presented set of studies provides an overview of the wide variety of research that is being conducted by our research group. After a short outline of the research questions we are trying to answer, I will talk about factors that influence infants' social learning, such as the competence of a model or her group membership. The second set of studies presented raises the question whether children have a Theory of Mind before the age of four. I will describe a variety of methods used in the course of infant and toddler research, in particular object choice, imitation, manipulation of helping behaviour and different variants of stimulus presentation (live vs. video). Finally, I will give you a sneaky peak into the studies that we are currently running.