

Gaze processing in chimpanzees and humans

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GAZE PROCESSING IN CHIMPANZEES AND HUMANS

Sanae Okamoto-Barth. 9 juni 2005

- 1. The more the physical distance between a chimpanzee mother and her infant increases the more they are looking at each other.
- 2. The development of gaze following in human and chimpanzee infants appears to be highly similar, despite some developmental differences in the onset of each "level" of gaze following.
- The common occurrence of triadic joint attention in human mother-infant relations is lacking in the interaction between an experimenter and a chimpanzee infant.
- Human adults' expectation of the location of a target stimulus affects their attention to a gaze direction cue from a schematic face in a traditional targetdetection task.
- 5. Although chimpanzees display impressive social intelligence in many aspects of their daily lives, it are only humans who enter into triadic-joint attentional states with conspecifics.
- 6. More advanced socio-cognitive skills such as a theory of mind develop gradually in human infants but not in chimpanzees.
- 7. It is not correct to suppose that similar gaze following behavior in humans and apes produces similar brain activation patterns.
- 8. While chimpanzees and humans use gaze in similar ways, humans may be unique in their propensity to interpret behaviors, including gaze, in a mentalistic fashion.
- 9. Japanese and German men do not have the same gaze interactions with women.