2022

Feedback and spider size estimation: A quantitative investigation into whether fear and feedback influences size estimation in spiders

Clements, A.

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The Plymouth Student Scientist
University of Plymouth

Appendix A

Brief

UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH

School of Psychology
University of Plymouth
Drake Circus
Plymouth
PL4 8AA

RESEARCH INFORMATION SHEET

Name of Principal Investigators: Ellie Louise, Amelia Clements, & Professor Jon May

Title of Research: The role of imagination in animal size perception.

Aim of research

The aim of this research is to investigates how your imagination influences your size perception of different animals.

Description of general procedure

You will be randomly allocated one of twenty-five different animals which may include:

cats	dogs	mice	gerbils	chinchillas	rats	tigers
bears	cows	goats	sheep	spiders	llamas	beetles
moths	butterflies	lions	wolves	pigeons	sheep	leopards

You will be presented with a questionnaire, measuring how fearful you are of the animal. You will be asked to imagine yourself in different scenarios, followed by imagining the animal in the scenarios. You will then have to estimate the size of the animal using common household objects as reference points. In total, the study will take 15 minutes.

Right to withdraw

Throughout the experiment and for ten days after its completion you have the right to withdraw, and request that your data be destroyed. Participants will be assigned a number under which their data will be stored in order to maintain anonymity. Should you have any questions or queries you may either ask the researcher during the experiment, or contact them by email at:

If you are not satisfied then you can contact the research supervisor: email jon.may@plymouth.ac.uk 01752 584839.
If you feel the problem has not been resolved please contact the Faculty of Health Ethical Committee Research Administrator: 01752 585339.

Do you have any questions?

Appendix B

Debrief

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School of Psychology
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Debrief

Name of Principal Investigators: Ellie Louise, Amelia Clements & Jon May

Title of Research:
The role of imagination in animal size perception.

We would like to thank you for taking part in our experiment! We would also like to remind you that all the data that was collected is confidential. If you would like to withdraw your data from the research, please contact us.

What was this study about?
In recent studies it's been looked whether individuals who are more fearful of spiders will overestimate their size (Vasey, et al. 2012). This experiment suggested further research looking into the role of false feedback in size perception and estimation.

Despite the suggestion of other animals being involved, all participants were given the same spider condition. Two condition existed within the experiment; a false feedback condition and a no feedback condition. In the false feedback condition participants were told that their scores were less than the average person. The false feedback given to participants was completely untrue and did not reflect accurately upon their true score. Participants true scores will only be established during the analysis phase. If you would like to enquire about your true score you can contact the listed experimentors below.

With the false feedback we expected to find a lower estimation of spider size when told they were less scared.
Similar to Vasey, et al 2012, we expected to find participants who rated higher on the FSQ to overestimate the size of the spiders.

Thank you for participating in this study.

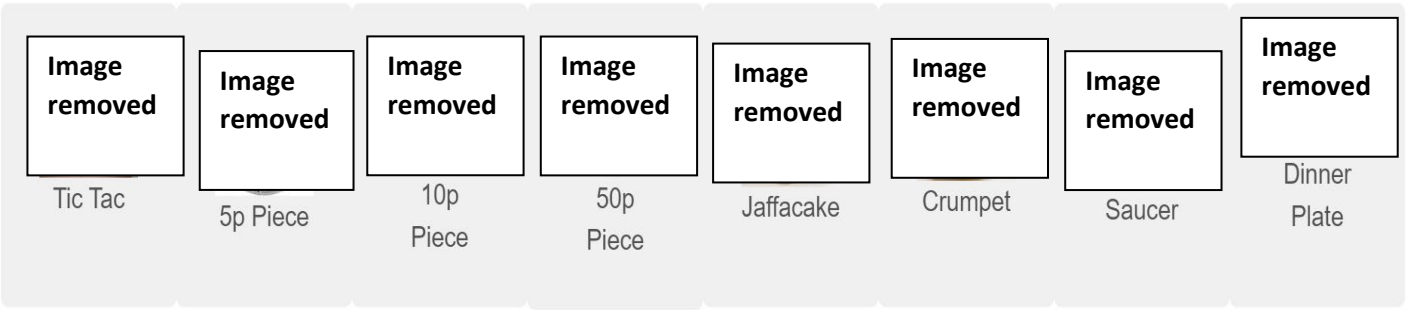
If you wish to withdraw your data from analysis, you can contact the experimenters wihtin the next ten days. We will be able to delete your data using the Participation System.

If you have any further questions or would like to withdraw your data at any point please contact me via the email address below.

If you are dissatisfied with the way the research is conducted, please contact one of the principal investigators in the first instance: email at: ellie.louise@students.plymouth.ac.uk amelia.clements@students.plymouth.ac.uk marika.cichocka@students.plymouth.ac.uk If you feel the problem has not been resolved please contact project supervisor, Professor Jon May, at jon.may@plymouth.ac.uk. If you have any problems regarduing ethical issues please contact the Faulty of Health Ethics Committee : hhsethics@plymouth.ac.uk'.

Appendix C

Response Rating Scale



N.B. Images were removed due to copyright restrictions. However, these can be replaced with similar items for repeat experiments.