

Chapter 6: *Perception*

- What is the difference between sensation and perception in psychology?
- How did empiricists and nativists differ in their understanding of the causes of perception? What is our current understanding on the nature and nurture issue in perceptual development and aging?
- How do psychologists use habituation, preferential looking, evoked potentials, and operant conditioning to explore infants' perceptual abilities?
- What are the perceptual capacities of infants?
 - What are the visual capacities of infants?
 - How well can infants discriminate brightness and color? What is their visual acuity? How well does visual accommodation work in infants?
 - How do infants perceive visual patterns? What characteristics of patterns are important for perception?
 - How does visual depth perception (including size constancy) develop in infants? What do studies with the visual cliff tell us?
 - What characteristics of visual stimuli do infants use to organize the world of physical objects?
 - What are the hearing capacities of infants?
 - How well can infants detect, localize, and discriminate sounds?
 - What is the course of development in the perception of phonemes? Do infants have preferences for particular voices?
 - What interventions are available for infants and children with hearing impairments?
 - What are the capacities of infants in regards to the chemical senses: taste and smell?
 - How well can infants detect and discriminate the basic tastes: sweet, salty, bitter, and sour?
 - How well can they detect and discriminate different olfactory stimuli?
 - What are the capacities of infants in regards to the physical senses: touch, temperature, and pain?
 - How well can infants detect and discriminate tactile stimuli?
 - What are some implications of infants' ability to perceive touch?
 - How do infants integrate sensory information through cross-modal perception?
 - What influences early perceptual development?
 - What is the role of early experience on brain development?
 - How does an infant's exploratory behavior further perceptual development?
 - What is the role of culture in perceptual development?
- In what ways does the capacity for selective attention change in childhood?
- In what ways does the capacity for selective attention change in adolescence?
- How do perceptual capacities decline in adulthood, in terms of changes to sensory thresholds and perceptual processing?
 - What changes in vision occur in adulthood?
 - How are these changes related to the function of the pupil, the lens, and the retina?
 - How does selective attention change in adulthood?
 - How do perceptual changes in older adults affect their driving ability?
 - What changes in hearing occur in adulthood, both in basic audition and speech perception?
 - What interventions are available for adults with hearing impairments?
 - What changes in taste and smell occur in adulthood? What implications does this have for adults' health?
 - What changes in the senses touch, temperature, and pain occur in adulthood?