

Face/house task for functional MRI

The face/house task for functional MRI is geared towards activating face processing areas in the brain. Children are presented with pictures of faces and of houses, in a semi-random order. To ensure children are paying attention, they are instructed to press a button when a red dot appears.

The task:

In this task, participants are required to passively view pictures of faces (happy, fearful, or neutral expression) and pictures of houses are presented in a pseudorandom order. The stimuli are taken from the Radboud Faces Database (Langner et al., 2010). Stimuli were presented in blocks of 18 seconds, with four blocks for each of the four stimulus types. Rest periods were modeled as implicit baseline. The scan sequence: using SENSE coil; parallel imaging, sensefactor 1.8; T2* weighted scan; Timeseries 389 scans, single scan duration 1 sec; Scanorientation sagittal; 64x64 acquisition matrix; 51 slices; multiband factor 3; FOV 220 mm; 2.5 mm isotropic voxels; TR/TE 1000/25.

References:

Langner, O., Dotsch, R., Bijlstra, G., Wigboldus, D. H., Hawk, S. T., & Van Knippenberg, A. D. (2010). Presentation and validation of the Radboud Faces Database. *Cognition and emotion*, 24(8), 1377-1388.