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The Imitative Mind

Development, Evolution and Brain Bases

EDITED BY ANDREW N. MELTZOFF

University of Washington

AND WOLFGANG PRINZ

Max-Planck Institute for Psychological Research

Modern research demonstrates that imitation is more complex and interesting than classical theories proposed. Monkeys do not imitate; but humans are prolific imitators. This book provides analysis of empirical work on imitation and shows how much can be learned through interdisciplinary research ranging from cells to individuals, apes to men, and babies to adults. The book is multidisciplinary, taking diverse perspectives on a great puzzle of human psychology: how and why do we imitate and what does it tell us about the encoding of self and others within our brains?

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