

Electronic Supporting Materials

Subjects

Sixteen semi-free chimpanzees living at Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary in Kenya participated in the study (see Table S1). All of the chimpanzees were born in the wild, are unrelated, and are orphans of the illegal trade in chimpanzee bushmeat, having been confiscated from poachers. See <http://www.olpejetaconservancy.org/wildlife/chimpanzees/meet-the-chimpanzees/> for further details on the individual history of the chimpanzees. During the day, the chimpanzees are released to range freely in the 1.01 km² enclosure within the 364 km² area of savannah and wooded grassland in Ol Pejeta Conservancy. In the evening, the chimpanzees return to sleep in a large holding facility. Each room is approximately 3.5 x 4.6 x 4.2 meters in size and shared by four individuals. Chimpanzees are fed three times a day. Subjects could be tested in their indoor enclosure before being released into their outside enclosure each day. The subjects are not food deprived. Subjects could choose to stop participating at any time (e.g., by sitting in front of the exit to the testing room and refusing to participate in the cooperation task) and would be released for the day. The main experiments (1, 2 & 3) were conducted with ten chimpanzees (six females, four males, age 7-28 years) living in a social group of 22 chimpanzees in the eastern section (group A) of the sanctuary. All ten subjects were familiar with the collaboration task. Dyads were chosen based on their tolerance levels. All subjects except one (Eva) were also familiar transferring tools to their partner in order to succeed collaborating, as it was required in Melis & Tomasello (2013). Six additional subjects (five females, one male, age 8-26 years) belonging to the western group (group B) participated in the follow-up condition of Experiment 3.

Table S1. Chimpanzees that participated in the study. Subjects marked with * had previously participated in Melis & Tomasello (2013).

Subject	Sex	Age (years)	Place of Birth	Participation in Experiments
Alley*	F	27	Born in wild (DRC)	Experiments 1, 2 & 3
Cheetah*	F	27	Born in wild (DRC)	Experiments 1, 2 & 3
Zee*	M	14	Born in wild (DRC)	Experiments 1, 2 & 3
Amahirwe*	M	16	Born in wild (DRC/Rwanda)	Experiments 1, 2 & 3
Ali kaka*	M	12	Born in wild (DRC/Sudan)	Experiments 1, 2 & 3
Eva*	F	12	Born in wild (DRC/Sudan)	Experiments 1, 2 & 3
Julia*	F	14	Born in wild (Cameroon)	Experiments 1, 2 & 3
Victoria*	F	10	Born in wild (Cameroon)	Experiments 1, 2 & 3
George*	M	11	Born in wild (DRC)	Experiments 1, 2 & 3
Jojo*	F	30	Born in wild (DRC)	Experiments 1, 2 & 3
Amizero	F	26	Born in wild (DRC)	Follow-up Exp. 3
Dufatanya	F	24	Born in wild (DRC)	Follow-up Exp. 3
Tess	F	23	Born in wild (DRC)	Follow-up Exp. 3
Bahati	F	22	Born in wild (DRC)	Follow-up Exp. 3
Joy	F	11	Born in sanctuary	Follow-up Exp. 3
Roy	M	8	Born in wild (DRC)	Follow-up Exp. 3

Apparatus

Procedure and Design

Prior to the test phase subjects were familiarized with the following aspects of the task.

Pre-test 1: Individual introduction to the opening mechanism of the hiding boxes

In this pre-test there was only one hiding box attached to the mesh. Door between rooms 1 & 2 was open. Subjects observed while the Experimenter hid a banana piece in the hiding box and were given the opening key so that they could try to open the box by themselves. Since the box only had one

37 opening, it generally did not take long until subjects started inserting the key in the opening. The
38 greatest difficulty was that the key could be inserted in two different directions, but only one of them
39 opened the guillotine door. Subjects received sessions of 10 trials. In order to move on to the next pre-
40 test, subjects had to open the box within 10s after first touching it in 3 consecutive trials (or 3 out of 4
41 trials).

42
43 Pre-test 2: Individual introduction to the two hiding boxes

44 There were two hiding boxes attached to the mesh between rooms 1 & 2. Subjects were familiarized
45 with the fact that only one box was baited with food and that after opening one of the boxes (i.e.
46 inserting the key in one of them), they could not open the second box anymore. A trial started by
47 distracting the subject in room 3 (E2) while another Experimenter (E1) placed half a banana in one of
48 the hiding boxes. In full view of the subject, E1 placed the key in room 1 between the two hiding
49 boxes. The key was placed in room 1 to facilitate subjects peeking through the windows in the back of
50 the boxes. Subjects were allowed to enter in room 2 from room 3, but the door between rooms 1 and 2
51 was open, so that they could walk to room 1, pick up the key, see which box was baited and then
52 come back to room 2 to open the box. Subjects received sessions of six trials, until they opened the
53 correct box in at least 10 out of 12 trials during two consecutive sessions. Subjects participated in an
54 average of 4.3 sessions to reach criterion (Range=2-8 sessions). On average subjects were successful
55 in 75% of the trials.

56
57
58 Pre-test 3: Metacognition

59 There were two hiding boxes attached to the mesh between rooms 1 & 2. The goal of this pre-test was
60 to make sure that subjects 1) were aware that they needed information about the hiding location of the
61 banana, and 2) they were willing and able to delay opening a box, walking some extra steps, to
62 acquire that information. This pre-test also showed that the subjects understood that only one box had
63 been baited, and that after opening one of the boxes they would not be able to open the second one.
64 The procedure was similar to the one from Pre-test 2, with the only difference that subjects found the
65 key in Room 2 in front of the hiding boxes. Despite this small difference, this was a much more
66 difficult condition, since subjects were already in front of the boxes with the key in their hand.
67 Therefore, to succeed they had to (1) inhibit opening any of the boxes the moment they entered into
68 room 2 and found the key, (2) go to room 1 and check which of the hiding boxes contained the
69 banana, and (3) go back to room 2 and open the correct hiding box.

70
71 Subjects received sessions of six trials, until they opened the correct box (after previous peeking
72 through the back window) in at least 10 out of 12 trials in two consecutive sessions. Subjects
73 participated in an average of 14.6 sessions to reach criterion (Range=3-28 sessions) and were on
74 average in 54% of the trials successful. There were great individual differences in this pre-test (see SI
75 table 1) but the same has been reported in other published metacognition studies. This metacognition
76 task was arguably more difficult, since the probability of succeeding by chance was 50% (higher than
77 in other metacognition studies) while at the same time the costs of checking first were higher (subjects
78 had to walk past the boxes into the adjacent room and come back). Subjects who did not meet the
79 criterion in 11 sessions (4 out of 10 subjects) participated in a modified procedure of the pre-test to
80 help them start looking before opening. This consisted in placing the key in room 1 (like in Pre-test 2)
81 and then slowly moving the key to room 2.

82
83 Pre-test 4: Metacognition and sequential tool use

84 There were two hiding boxes and the collaboration box attached to the mesh between rooms 1 & 2
85 (Figure 1b, main manuscript). The collaboration box was placed between the two hiding boxes and
86 baited with grapes. This pre-test was similar to pre-test 3 except that now the tools necessary to empty
87 the collaboration box were hidden in one of the hiding boxes. The door between rooms 1 & 2 was
88 open, and subjects were allowed to move freely between the two rooms once they entered into room
89 2. As in the previous pre-test, they found the key to open the hiding boxes in room 2 at an equidistant
90 position between the two hiding boxes. Therefore, they had to (1) inhibit opening any of the boxes the
91 moment they entered into room 2 and found the key, (2) go to room 1 and check which of the hiding
92 boxes contained the tools, (3) go back to room 2 and open the hiding box containing the raking and

93 pushing tools, and (4) perform both roles (raking and pushing) at the collaboration box (going back
 94 and forth to both sides of the grapes box) in order to obtain the grapes inside the collaboration box.
 95 Subjects received sessions of four trials, until they performed correctly in at least three out of the four
 96 trials in two consecutive sessions. Subjects participated in an average of 6.7 sessions to reach criterion
 97 (Range=2-25 sessions; see supplemental material for individual results). On average subjects were
 98 successful in 74% of the trials.

102 Table S2. Individual pretests' results. In pretests 2 & 3 subjects received 6 trials per session and in
 103 pretest 4, 4 trials per session.

Subject	Pretest 2		Pretest 3		Pretest 4	
	Sessions	% Trials correct	Sessions	% Trials correct	Sessions	% Trials correct
Julia	5	63	7	29	2	87.5
Vicky	7	74	5	63	2	87.5
Amahirwe	3	89	4	75	2	100
Zee	8	60	27	44	8	47
Eva	5	73	3	78	2	87.5
Alikaka	2	92	26	58	8	65.6
Alley	3	89	11	62	5	75
Cheetah	4	67	24	40	8	72
George	4	67	28	49	5	75
Jojo	2	92	11	42	25	47

105 Pre-test 5: Collaboration reminder

106 In this pre-test there was only the collaboration box attached to the mesh. The door between rooms 1
 107 & 2 was closed and there was one individual in each room. Each individual in the dyad was given the
 108 correct tool necessary to perform her/his role. Subjects participated in two sessions of four trials each
 109 in which they had to collaborate with their partner to obtain the grapes in the collaboration box. The
 110 subject in room 1 (the communicator's room) was required to rake the grapes and the subject in room
 111 2 (the recipient's room) was required to insert the pushing tool to tilt the platform with the grapes.
 112 Subjects exchanged positions (and roles) in the second session. In this pre-test we were also able to
 113 test whether the dyads from Melis & Tomasello (2013) were still tolerant enough to collaborate
 114 successfully.

117 Pre-test 6: Tool-transfer reminder

118 In this pre-test there was only the collaboration box attached to the mesh. The door between rooms 1
 119 & 2 was closed and there was one individual in each room. One subject in the dyad was given both
 120 tools (as in Melis & Tomasello, 2013). The subject in room 1 (the communicator's room) was
 121 required to rake the grapes and transfer the pushing tool to the subject in room 2 (the recipient's
 122 room), whereas the subject in room 2 (the recipient's room) was required to transfer the raking tool to
 123 the subject in room 1 (the communicator's room) and push and tilt the platform with the grapes with
 124 the pushing tool. Which subject in the dyad (the raker or the pusher) received both tools alternated
 125 across trials. Subjects participated in two sessions of four trials each. One of the subjects (Eva) had
 126 never transferred tools to the partner before, and she needed 2 additional sessions in which E1
 127 encouraged her to transfer the tool to the conspecific until she started doing it on her own.

129 Test phase

131 Experiment 1: Comprehension of human pointing

133 The two hiding boxes and the collaboration box were attached to the mesh between rooms 1 & 2. The
 134 door between rooms 1 and 2 was always closed. The 10 subjects participated in the recipient's role
 135 with a human experimenter (E1) as the communicator. The tools for the collaboration task were

136 hidden in one of the hiding boxes while the subject was distracted by E2 in room 3. The collaboration
137 box was baited with grapes and placed in line following the two hiding boxes, 150cm away from the
138 closest hiding box. The distance between the two hiding boxes was 160cm. The key to open the
139 hiding boxes was placed at an equidistant position between the two hiding boxes in room 2 (3m away
140 from the mesh). E1 positioned herself in room 1 at an equidistant position between the two hiding
141 boxes 130cm apart from the mesh where the two hiding boxes were attached. A trial started when E2
142 allowed the subject to enter room 2. The moment the subject started entering in Room 2, E1 called the
143 subject's name and food-grunted while she was bodily oriented, looking at and pointing (cross-point)
144 to the baited box. After the subject obtained the tools, E1 approached to the collaboration box.
145 Subjects spontaneously transferred the raking tool to E1, and E1 and the subject collaborated
146 emptying the box (E1 raking the grapes and the subject inserting the pushing tool to tilt the platform
147 with the grapes). If the subject did not open the hiding box indicated by E1, the trial was considered
148 unsuccessful and the subject was called into room 3 to prepare the boxes for the following trial. Each
149 subject participated in two sessions of six test trials each. Each session started with four introduction
150 trials, in which E1 was not there and the two hiding boxes were empty. Subjects experienced in these
151 four initial trials always failure. The position of the tools in the test trials (Left vs. Right box) was
152 counterbalanced across trials with the only constraint that it could not be in the same box in more than
153 two consecutive trials.

154

155 Experiment 2: Cooperative communication among chimpanzees (Focus on production)

156

157 Introductory session

158

159 All dyads participated in an introductory session of four trials to acquaint them with all the steps of
160 the task except with the communication aspect of the task. The collaboration box was baited with
161 eight grapes, and the two hiding boxes were also placed in position. The communicator was in room 1
162 and the door between room 1 and room 2 was closed. The tools were placed inside one of the hiding
163 boxes, but since both boxes were opened, recipients did not need information from the communicator.
164 After allowing the recipient to enter in room 2, (s)he could take the tools, transfer the raking tool to
165 the communicator and empty the collaboration box.

166

167 Test

168

169 Each test session consisted of four different kinds of trials. Each test session started with two
170 introduction trials, followed by two trios of trials, each trio containing one trial of each type (i.e. test,
171 control and motivation) in a randomized order.

172

173 - Introduction trials: the collaboration box was baited with 8 grapes. The two hiding boxes
174 were closed but empty. The subject in the communicator role was not there. The recipient was
175 allowed to enter room 2, where she found the key to open the boxes, but since both boxes
176 were empty she was never successful. The goal of these trials was to "slow down" the
177 recipients. Since they had a 50% chance of being successful, these trials were introduced to
178 reduce the "perceived probability" of success, and increase the likelihood of recipients paying
179 attention to potential communicative cues.

180

181 - Test trials: the collaboration box was baited with 8 grapes. The two hiding boxes were closed
182 and one of them contained the tools. The communicator was in room 1 and was able to see
183 which of the hiding boxes contained the tools. A trial started when the recipient was allowed
184 to enter in room 2. If the recipient opened the correct box (by chance or following the
185 indications of the communicator), (s)he obtained the tools. She then had to transfer the raking
186 tool to the communicator so that they together could collaborate obtaining the grapes.

187

188 - Control trials: the collaboration box was baited with 8 grapes. The two hiding boxes were
189 closed and one of them contained the tools. The communicator was in room 1 and was able to
190 see which of the hiding boxes contained the tools. The recipient never entered room 2, and

191 remained in room 3. A trial started when the human experimenters left the testing facility and
192 ended after 2 minutes. It was important that humans left the testing area to make clear that the
193 recipient would not join the communicator.

194
195 - Motivation trials: the collaboration box was baited with 8 grapes. The two hiding boxes were
196 open and one of them contained the tools. The communicator was in room 1. A trial started
197 when the recipient was allowed to enter room 2. The recipient was always able to obtain the
198 tools for the collaboration box. She then had to transfer the raking tool to the communicator
199 so that they together could collaborate obtaining the grapes

200 The key to open the hiding boxes was either given to the communicator or placed in the recipient's
201 room (room 2). This only applies to the test and control trials, since in the motivation trials, subjects
202 did not require the key as both boxes were open. In half of the sessions, the recipients encountered the
203 key in room 2 at an equidistant position between the two hiding boxes (3m apart from the mesh
204 separating rooms 1 and 2. In the other half of the sessions, the communicators had the key. All dyads
205 participated in 6 sessions (2 trials of each type per session), after which subjects exchanged roles (i.e.
206 communicators became recipients and viceversa) and received another 6 sessions.

207
208 Experiment 3: Cooperative communication among chimpanzees (Focus on comprehension)

209 Each session started with four introduction trials in which the communicators were not there. The
210 Introduction trials, were just as the introduction trials described in Experiment 2. The test trials were
211 like the test trials from Test 2, only that now the communicator always had the key for the hiding
212 boxes. The communicator was in Room 1 and was able to see which of the hiding boxes contained the
213 tools. A trial started when E1 gave the key for the hiding boxes to the communicator and E2 opened
214 the door allowing the recipient to enter Room 2. The communicator had to transfer the key to the
215 recipient and communicate which hiding box the recipient should open. If the recipient opened the
216 correct box (by chance or following the indications of the communicator), (s)he obtained the tools.
217 She then had to transfer the raking tool to the communicator so that they together could collaborate
218 obtaining the grapes. Subjects participated in a minimum of three and a maximum of six sessions,
219 until they completed 18 test trials.

220
221

222 Follow-up local enhancement control

223 A new group of six subjects participated in this experiment. After successfully passing Pre-tests 1 &
224 2 (see above), subjects initiated the test phase. Each test session started with four introduction trials
225 (conducted in the same way as explained above), and was followed by six test trials. In the
226 Introduction trials, the two hiding boxes were closed but empty. The recipient was allowed to enter
227 Room 2, where (s)he found the key to open the boxes, but since both boxes were empty,
228 independently of which box (s)he opened, (s)he was never successful. The goal of these trials was to
229 "slow subjects down". In the test trials, the two hiding boxes were closed. The door separating
230 Rooms 1 and 2 was closed, so that subjects could not see the back of the boxes and check which box
231 was baited. E1 placed the reward (1/3 banana) in one of the boxes and placed the key to open the
232 hiding boxes close to it, while E2 distracted the subject. A trial started when E2 allowed the subject to
233 enter Room 2. The dependent measure was whether or not subjects would preferentially open the box
234 the key was closest to. Subjects participated in a total of 18 trials.

235

236 Coding and Analyses

237 All trials were videotaped and a second observer independently scored 30% of the trials. The main
238 dependent measures were: success (i.e. which of the two hiding boxes recipients opened) and
239 communicative signals by subjects in the communicator's role. A test trial started when the recipient
240 entered room 2 and ended after the recipient opened one of the boxes (or after a maximum of 2
241 minutes if recipients did not open a box). A control trial (in Experiment 2 only) started when the
242 experimenters left the testing area (indicated with an auditory cue) and ended after two minutes. In
243 Experiment 2 we coded as "communicative behaviour" (in test and control trials) all instances in

244 which the communicator positioned herself close to (or behind) one of the boxes waiting for the
 245 recipient to enter room 2, or for at least 4sec before the recipient started opening one of the boxes. In
 246 addition, communicators could touch, look at the box or transfer the key close to the box. In
 247 experiment 3, communicators always had the key for the hiding boxes, so that transferring the key
 248 close to one of the boxes was the main communicative behaviour observed and coded. Inter-observer
 249 reliability for success was excellent (Cohen’s kappa = 1.00 for Experiments 1, 2, 3). Inter-observer
 250 reliability for communication was good in Experiment 2 (Cohen’s kappa = 0.885, N=74, Agreement:
 251 94%), and very good in Experiment 3 (Cohen’s kappa = 0.901, N=59, Agreement: 96%). Statistics
 252 were calculated with SPSS 22.0.0. and R (R Core Team, 2016). All statistical tests were two-tailed.
 253 We used non-parametric tests (Wilcoxon exact tests) to compare subjects’ performance versus a
 254 chance outcome. Furthermore, given that we had individuals in each dyad playing both roles
 255 (communicator and recipient) and all dyads received multiple trials, we also analysed the data using
 256 Generalized Linear Mixed Models (GLMM: Baayen, 2008) and included the identity of the dyad, the
 257 communicator and the recipient as random factors to control for the non-independency of the data.
 258 Since our responses were always binary (communication vs. no communication and success vs. no
 259 success) the models were fitted with binomial error structure and logit link using the function glmer of
 260 the R-package lme4 (McCullagh & Nelder, 2008; Bates, Maechler, Bolker, & Walker, 2015). Prior to
 261 running the model we z-transformed trial number to a mean of zero and a standard deviation of one to
 262 easier interpretable estimates (Aiken & West, 1991; Schielzeth, 2010). Each full model (including all
 263 fixed and random effects) was compared to a null model that included the control predictors and
 264 random effects by using a likelihood ratio test (Dobson 2002). P-values for the individual effects were
 265 based on likelihood ratio tests comparing the full with respective reduced models (Barr, Levy,
 266 Scheepers, & Tily, 2013). For the random effects (dyad, communicator, recipient), random intercepts
 267 and random slopes were considered. To rule out collinearity between the different factors, we
 268 determined Variance Inflation Factors (VIF) using the “vif” function of the R-package ‘car’ (Fox &
 269 Weisberg, 2011) but it was never an issue. We estimated model stability by dropping the levels of
 270 the random effects, one at a time, and comparing the estimates derived from the respective reduced
 271 data sets with those obtained from the full data set.

272 Results

273 Experiment 2

274 Model 1 (Communicators). To test the differential rate of communication across the test and control
 275 conditions we included communication (yes/no) as the dependent variable and as fixed factors the
 276 interaction between trial number (1-12) and condition (Test and Control) and the fixed factors:
 277 communicators’ possession of key (yes/no), role order (communicator first/recipient first) and baited
 278 box (left/right). We also included the identity of the dyad, the identity of the communicator and the
 279 identity of the recipient as random factors. The full model was significantly different from a more
 280 parsimonious model without the interaction between trial number and condition, but all the fixed
 281 factors and the random intercepts and slopes (Likelihood ratio test: $\chi^2(1) = 15.717, p < .001$).

282 Table S3. Factors that influenced the likelihood of communication in Experiment 2.

	Estimate	SE	Z	P
Trial	-0.553	0.318	-1.740	0.082
Condition	1.771	0.521	3.399	0.001
Key	-0.306	0.633	-0.483	0.629
Baited box	-0.260	0.330	-0.788	0.431
Role Order	-0.160	0.554	-0.289	0.773
Trial: Condition	1.364	0.352	3.869	0.000

283
 284 Model 2 (Recipients). To test the variables that affected recipients’ likelihood of opening the box with
 285 tools, we conducted a GLMM in which we included “Success opening the baited box (yes/no)” as the
 286 dependent variable, and communication (yes/no), trial number, role order, communicator’s possession
 287 of the key and baited box as fixed factors. We also included the identity of the dyad, the identity of

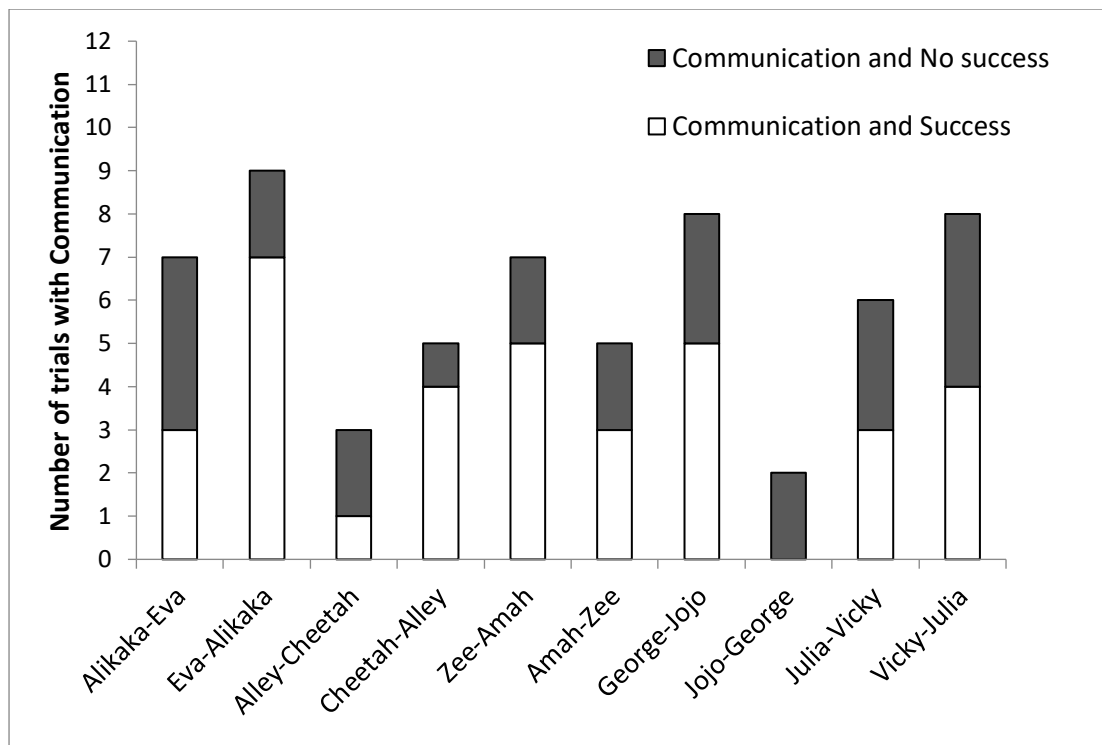
288 the communicator and the identity of the recipient as random factors. The full model was significantly
 289 different from a more parsimonious model that included possession of the key, role order and baited
 290 box as predictors and the random intercepts and slopes (Likelihood ratio test: $\chi^2(2) = 6.251, p = .044$).
 291 Recipients were more likely to be successful finding the tools when their partners communicated
 292 (estimate = 1.321, SE = 0.444, Z = 2.973, $p < 0.01$), whereas trial number had no effect.

294 Table S4. Factors that influenced the likelihood of success (i.e. recipient opening the box the tools) in
 295 Experiment 2.

	Estimate	SE	Z	P
Trial	-0.227	0.239	-0.951	0.342
Key	-0.003	0.417	-0.008	0.994
Baited box	0.616	0.416	1.482	0.138
Role Order	0.182	0.414	0.440	0.660
Communication	1.321	0.444	2.973	0.003

296

297 The following figure shows the number of trials with communication in which recipients were
 298 successful finding the tools or not. Alikaka, Alley, Amahirwe, Zee and Jojo were more successful
 299 than unsuccessful when their partners communicated.



300

301 Figure S1. Absolute number of trials in Experiment 2 in which subjects in the communicator's role
 302 signalled one of the boxes and led to recipient's success or failure. On the X-axis the subjects in the
 303 communicator's role (first name) with their recipient partners (second name).

304 Experiment 3

305 Model 3 (Communicators). To test if individuals' likelihood of communicating the location of the
 306 tools increased with trial number, we conducted a GLMM that included the identity of the dyad, the
 307 identity of the communicator and the identity of the recipient as random factors, "correct
 308 communication" (yes/no) as the dependent variable (no communication or signalling the empty box
 309 were considered incorrect responses) and as fixed factors "trial number (1-18)", "role order"
 310 (communicator first/recipient first) and "baited box (left/right)". The full model was not significantly

311 different from a more parsimonious model that included only role order and “baited box” as control
 312 predictors and the random intercepts and slopes (Likelihood ratio test: $\chi^2(1) = 0.027$, $p = .870$)

313 Model 4 (Recipients). We ran a GLMM to test the variables that affected recipients’ likelihood of
 314 opening the box with tools. Since subjects communicated at such high levels, we did not look at simple
 315 communication but we looked at “Correct Communication”, where no communication or signalling the
 316 empty box were considered incorrect responses and signalling the baited box correct. As in the previous
 317 models, we included the identity of the dyad, the identity of the communicator and the identity of the
 318 recipient as random factors, “Success opening the baited box (yes/no)” as the dependent variable, and
 319 “trial number”, “correct communication (yes/no)”, “role order” (communicator first/recipient first), and
 320 “baited box” as fixed factors. The full model was significantly different from a more parsimonious
 321 model that included only role order and baited box as predictors and the random intercepts and slopes
 322 (Likelihood ratio test: $\chi^2(2) = 15.575$, $p < 0.001$).

323
 324 Table S5. Factors that influenced the likelihood of success (i.e. recipient opening the box the tools) in
 325 Experiment 3.

	Estimate	SE	Z	P
Trial	0.002	0.244	0.009	0.993
Baited box	0.204	0.750	0.272	0.786
Role Order	0.097	0.734	0.133	0.894
Correct Communication	1.914	0.522	3.665	0.000

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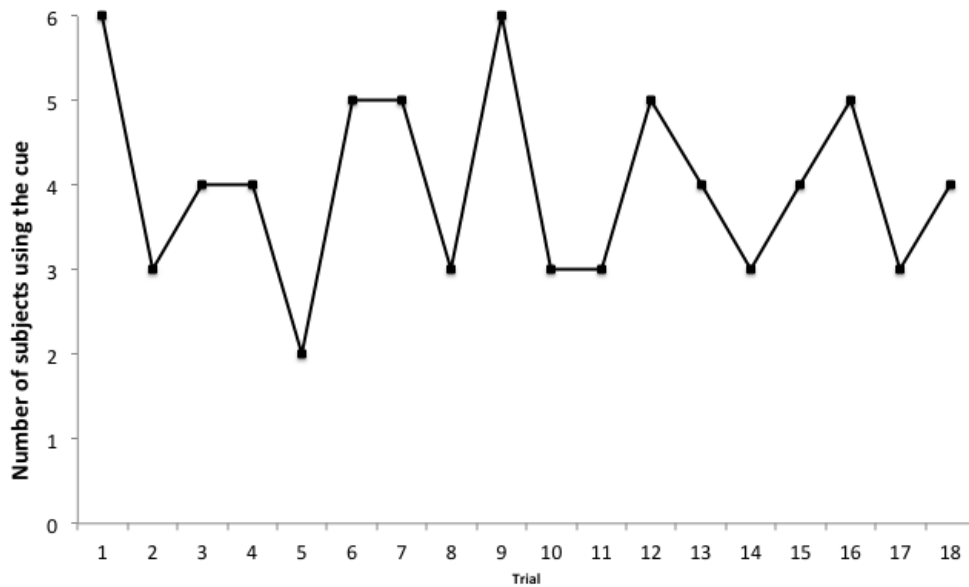
328 Model 5 (Follow-up).

329
 330 To test what variables affected subjects’ likelihood of using the cue we conducted a GLMM in which
 331 we included the identity of the subject as random factor, “Success opening the baited box (yes/no)” as
 332 the dependent variable, and trial number and baited box (L/R) as fixed factors. The full model was
 333 significantly different from a more parsimonious model that included only the random intercepts and
 334 slopes (Likelihood ratio test: $\chi^2(2) = 8.081$ $p = 0.018$). Subjects were more likely to succeed obtaining
 335 the reward when the left box was baited (estimate = 2.786, SE = 0.802, Z = -3.472, $p = .001$),
 336 whereas trial number had no effect on levels of success (see also Figure S4). Side biases in object-
 337 choice tasks have also been reported previously (Hare & Tomasello, 2004; Erdőhegyi et al. 2007).
 338 When individuals do not have a causal reason for switching sides, sticking to one side it is probably a
 339 simpler (and on average 50% -correct) strategy.

340 Table S6. Factors that influenced the likelihood of success (i.e. subject opening the baited box) in the
 341 follow-up control

	Estimate	SE	Z	P
Trial number	-0.029	0.050	-0.587	0.557
Baited box	-2.786	0.802	-3.472	0.001

342



343

344 Figure S4. Number of subjects, on a trial-by-trial basis, using the spatial cue in the follow-up control
 345 of experiment 3 (key close to the baited box)

346

347 **References**

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378 Video 1. Metacognition pretest. Subject has the key for the hiding boxes in his hands but he
379 first goes to room 1 to check the content of the boxes peeking through the back windows of
380 the hiding boxes. He returns to room 2 and opens the box containing the tools. He then
381 performs both actions (raking and pushing) to obtain the grapes in the collaboration box.
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385 Video 2. Human pointing. Human experimenter calls the subject's name, food-grunts and
386 uses a cross-point while looking at the box with the tools. Subject finds the key for the
387 hiding box at an equidistant position between the two boxes and he opens the box
388 indicated by the experimenter. Experimenter moves to the collaboration box, and subject
389 gives her the raking tool, so that each can perform the necessary action on each side of the
390 box.
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394 Video 3. Failed Communication. Trial starts when the experimenter gives the key for the
395 hiding boxes to the communicator (Zee) in room 1. The communicator positions himself
396 behind the box with the tools (right box). The recipient (Amahirwe) is allowed to enter room
397 2 at 9sec and finds that the communicator is offering him the key close to one of the boxes
398 (right box). However, the recipient opens the empty left box.
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402 Video 4. Successful Communication. Trial starts when the experimenter gives the key to the
403 communicator (Zee) in room 1. The communicator positions himself behind the box with
404 the tools (left box). The recipient (Amahirwe) is allowed to enter room 2 at 6sec and the
405 communicator gives him the key at 8sec (left box) while looking at the box. This time the
406 recipient opens the box containing the tools. The recipient takes out the two tools and both
407 individuals move together to the collaboration box. The recipient transfers the raking tool to
408 the communicator and they both perform their role obtaining the grapes.
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