

# Children's Lies Are a Sign of Cognitive Progress

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*The Wall Street Journal:*

Child-rearing trends might seem to blow with the wind, but most adults would agree that preschool children who have learned to talk shouldn't lie. But learning to lie, it turns out, is an important part of learning in general—and something to consider apart from fibbing's ethical implications.

The ability to bend the truth is a developmental milestone, much like walking and talking. Research led by Kang Lee, a psychology professor at the University of Toronto, shows that lying begins early in precocious children. Among verbal 2-year-olds, 30% try to pull the wool over their parents' eyes at some point. At age 3, 50% regularly try it. Fibbing is common among 80% of 4-year-olds and is seen in nearly all healthy 5- to 7-year-olds.

Read the whole story: [The Wall Street Journal](#)