

## Faculti Summary

<https://staging.faculti.net/whos-a-good-boy-dogs-prefer-naturalistic-dog-directed-speech/>

This video video discusses the concept of "infant-directed speech" (IDS), also known colloquially as "baby talk," which is characterized by higher pitch, exaggerated emotions, and distinct pitch contours. This video video style of communication is commonly used by caregivers when speaking to infants to help them learn language and establish emotional bonds. Similar speech patterns are noted in "dog-directed speech," but while both involve some emotional changes and increased pitch, they differ in the articulation of vowel sounds — IDS features more hyper-articulation than speech directed at dogs, which is closer to adult-directed speech in that regard.

Research conducted in this area explores whether dog-directed speech serves a functional purpose in enhancing the bond between humans and dogs or simply stems from the human tendency to use baby-like speech for all infant-like beings. Initial experiments indicated that dogs show a preference for dog-directed speech, but follow-up studies suggest this preference might hinge on the interaction of both prosody (the musicality of speech) and vocabulary.

The researchers have plans for future studies that would involve puppies to investigate whether these preferences are innate or learned, aiming to better understand the factors that influence how dogs respond to different types of speech. The findings imply that using dog-directed speech could help dogs feel more comfortable and engaged during interactions, thereby enhancing the human-dog relationship.