

**MITTWOCHSVORTRAGSREIHE AM PSYCHOLOGISCHEN INSTITUT  
DER UNIVERSITÄT SALZBURG  
IN ZUSAMMENARBEIT MIT DER SALZBURGER GESELLSCHAFT FÜR  
PSYCHOLOGIE**

---

**Vortrag am: 7.12.2006**

**Vortragender: Andrew Bremner, Goldsmiths College, University of London**

**Thema: The object concept in infancy and early childhood**

The proliferation of research methods for assessing object perception and knowledge in early infancy have led to the widely held view that humans begin life with core knowledge of objects and space (Baillargeon, 2004; Spelke, 1998). This challenges theories that posit a developmental construction of object concepts over the first years of life (Mareschal, Plunkett & Harris, 1998; Piaget, 1954; Metzoff & Moore, 1998). In relation to this debate, this talk will discuss two recent developments in our understanding of early knowledge; i) the finding that young infants are highly competent at recognising the spatial layout of an object across changes in it's orientation with respect to egocentric coordinates (Bremner, Bryant & Mareschal. in press; Bremner, Bryant, Mareschal & Volein, submitted), and ii) the finding that young infants have difficulty in remembering more than one kind of information (spatial or featural identity) about an object at anyone time (Mareschal & Bremner, in press; Mareschal & Johnson, 2003). The implications of these findings for infants' early understanding of objects and their casual spatiotemporal structure (Campbell, 1993) will be discussed.