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Experiment 4

Across all experiments, four-year-olds never exceeded chance performance. Did children struggle to prioritize agents' sources above other features? Or was some other (source-irrelevant) feature of our task too confusing or demanding for younger children? To distinguish between these possibilities, we replicate the procedure of Experiment 3 with four-year-olds, but end the experiment before revealing any source information. If four-year-olds struggled to process and act upon source information (thus failing to prioritize independent over merely repeated testimony), here they should successfully side with the three-person majority. But if some other feature of our task was confusing for younger children, they should perform at chance.

Method

Participants

30 four-year-olds (mean age: 4.51 years, range: 3.92 – 5.02 years) participated. Three additional participants were excluded from the analyses and replaced because the participant did not answer the test question within 30s ($n = 2$) or due to distraction ($n = 1$). Three further participants were automatically excluded because they were tested by a research assistant who had not been fully trained; this decision was not pre-registered.

As in Experiments 1-3, we used all recruitment methods available; half of our sample (50%; $n = 18$ of 36) participated at the Peabody Museum; see Experiment 1 for summary demographics of museum visitors. The other half of our sample (50%; $n = 18$ of 36) participated via The Child Lab. Sixteen of these participants chose to provide demographic information; of these, 6.3% were Black, 31.2% were Hispanic or Latino, 6.3% were Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and 81.2% were White (participants who reported 2 or more races were counted in each category). All data were collected between April 2019 and February 2020.

Procedure

The task was identical to the procedure of Experiment 3, except that students' sources were never referenced or revealed. The teacher asked four students about the hamster's location, and the students split unequally: three students endorsed one location, and one student endorsed the other. As before, the side each group endorsed was mentioned an equal number of times.

Results

Results were coded as in the previous experiments. 97.2% of child participants were video or audio taped ($n = 35/36$). 6 participants were excluded and replaced (see Participants).

66.6% of participants aligned themselves with the majority, judging that the hamster was in the location indicated by the three-student consensus. This is a proportion reliably higher than chance (20 of 30; 95% CI: 50 – 83.3), suggesting that four-year-olds did not find the task too confusing or demanding. A binomial logistic regression predicting performance based on method of participation (in person vs. online; not pre-registered) revealed no difference between the two ($\beta = 0.21, p = .8$).

53.3% of participants provided an explanation ($n = 16$ of 30); 5 referenced a greater number of informants, and 11 produced ambiguous or otherwise un-codable explanations. Inter-rater reliability was high (86.6%; Cohen's $\kappa = 0.79; p < .001$). All 5 participants who referenced a greater number of informants endorsed the testimony of the majority. In contrast, participants who provided un-codable explanations showed no consistent preference: approximately half endorsed the testimony of the agent who heard from multiple sources ($n = 6$ of 11, 54.5%). And of participants who provided no explanation, about two thirds also endorsed the testimony of this agent ($n = 9$ of 14; 64.3%).

Explanation coding scheme

Code:	Description / examples:
More	Child references quantity or magnitude in some way, and you think their explanation indicates that they chose the side that had MORE people. Examples: “Because there’s three”; “Because there’s more”; “Because more is better”; etc.
Less	Child references quantity or magnitude in some way, and you think their explanation indicates that they chose the side that had LESS people. Examples: “Because one is better”; “Because there’s only one”; etc.
Other	Irrelevant (“Because there’s grass and maybe the hamster was hungry”) or ambiguous which code is best
N/A	Child did not provide explanation

Raw explanations

Experiment 1

N	Explanation:
1	because 3 people think so
2	because they saw it
3	cause there's 3 and that one is 1
4	don't know
5	n/a
6	I definitely know because there are more people on that side than that side
7	because it has 3
8	Because Annie said the hamster ran through the blue door
9	Because it has 3 people
10	Because more people told the student in the green
11	Because more people said it ran through that door
12	Because there's more people that told her
13	because there's more people
14	because I saw it; I saw the hamster coming out
15	because more people said that
16	because there's only 1 person on the green and 3 people on the blue
17	because the blue door that's where you came and and the green door is where came out
18	n/a
19	because of the girl saw it
20	more people
21	because of the more people thought the hamster went to blue than the green
22	because there is more people
23	not asked
24	because more people have seen it run through the blue
25	I don't know
26	it has 3 people
27	because it went through the blue door
28	because she said it
29	um, um, they might have someone got out and some people might have saw it from one side and some from the other side like they saw it from different angles
30	Because she has ponytails!
31	more students saw it at the green door
32	because more kids say they saw it through the blue
33	I don't know; it is just the door I picked
34	there were more children that said the hamster went through the blue door

35	because the most people saw it, or it would have been blue and she was lying
36	because the blue, um, she saw more people
37	because there is more people on that side than the blue side
38	I don't know
39	because more people support that than the green
40	because there's the most kids that tell her where the hamster went
41	because, um, because blue is a quicker way towards outside
42	because there's three people that think that
43	Don't know
44	because it has more people
45	because it's more people
46	Because there's three
47	Because she said it
48	I'm thinking about math right now. Because there's more kids there
49	Because there's more people on the green side than on the blue side
50	Because it has more than 1
51	Because more people said it went through the green, so I'm just predicting it went through the green
52	because there's more people over there that saw it through the green door
53	because there's a lot of people on that side but not on that side; 1-2-3, but there's only one on the other side
54	because only one person saw it
55	Because I saw it go through the blue door
56	I think it would because it kind of looked like it was about to turn that way
57	Because it ran away
58	Because that's Jack's NOT favorite color
59	Because she said 3 of them said it went through the other one
60	Because it's like taking votes - one voted blue, and three voted green
61	Because there's more people on the blue side than the green
62	cuz she knows that they both know they know that the hamster ran out the green door
63	because there's more people that think that it is on the blue side
64	Because he ran out of the class
65	because three people know the way the hamster went
66	n/a
67	n/a
68	n/a
69	because a lot of students asked her
70	Because I don't know
71	n/a

72	because blue is my favorite color
73	I don't know
74	Because more people said that it ran through the green door than the blue door
75	n/a
76	no guesses - kept saying the blue door in explanation (had answered "green" to the test question), but when I re-asked where the hamster went participant said green again (repeating initial answer to test question)
77	because there's more people
78	because 3 people told her
79	Because I she said it
80	because there's so many students that saw him do it
81	Because he went there for some food
82	Because it has more people
83	Because I think there's more people
84	Because it's more people
85	Because they have this one has more sides, this one [blue] only has one
86	I don't know
87	no guesses
88	because I don't know
89	n/a
90	Because more people saw
91	because he ran out then went to the blue door
92	Cuz there's more friends
93	because she said more people
94	Because there's three people who said it and on the other side there's only one
95	Because there's more people on the green door
96	Because there's more people than the green one
97	Because there's 3 people there
98	It's because more people saw it
99	n/a
100	Because the only person who did the most got it right
101	n/a
102	Because there's 3 students who saw that the hamster went through the blue door
103	because it has more
104	n/a
105	cuz I like blue
106	because I think that, I don't think it would I mean, I'm not sure but I think
107	since lots more people said blue
108	cuz there's more people

109	because more people are telling her about the green
110	because way more people said it ran through the blue door and the green side just had one
111	because there's more people
112	Because there's more people
113	because there's only one student there and there's three student who said it ran through the blue door
114	Because she has 3 people who told her
115	Because more people think the hamster ran through the green door
116	Because this is greater (three) than one
117	Because there are three people who said they were going, and on the blue side one
118	Because there's most of the students that they asked
119	because, um, I, I like less, because, she has less, and if less people say they can then maybe they can get a lot of information
120	because there's a lot of people
121	[participant ended study early]
122	n/a
123	Because there's more children who saw it
124	Because most people
125	Because there's more people
126	Because there's more people voting for it

Experiment 2

N	Explanation
1	Because there's three people
2	Because there's more
3	Unintelligible; experimenter couldn't understand or didn't record the explanation, and the audio recorded very faintly so the answer coder also couldn't make out the explanation
4	Because there's more students that said it was on the blue door
5	Cause there's more people
6	Because more people saw it there
7	Because there's more people voting
8	Because they saw it go there...and then the blue side has 3 people
9	Because one person said it
10	All of them saw the hamster go through the green door
11	Because there's more students
12	Because there's three people left on the green door and one on the blue door

13	Because there's more than the blue one
14	I don't know
15	Because more people said that
16	Because I think it ran through it
17	Because I see 2 other blues but not 2 other greens
18	I don't know, I don't know where the hamster ran. I'll just pick green
19	Because there's less
20	maybe the hamster ran through the blue door
21	n/a
22	Because that might have been the mouse's favorite color
23	Because he ran out
24	I think blue because it has more people than just 1
25	Cause every student over there said green and one only said blue one
26	Because I think the answer is blue
27	n/a
28	Cause more people think he went through the green door
29	Just because
30	Because it has more people
31	n/a
32	Cause there's one person
33	Because most people said they saw it go out the blue door, and the green people said only one person saw it go through the green door
34	Because they all said she saw it
35	Because- I don't know
36	Cause 3 people say it and then the other one said only one person
37	Because it wanted to poop
38	Because it has more people on the outside
39	n/a
40	Because three people did
41	Anyways I guessed it right. Because green means go
42	Because all of the kids on the green side said they saw him through the green door
43	I don't know
44	Because 3 kids are the blue door and one kid is on the green door
45	Because all these (blue) are just pointing to one person - they all (green) heard it from different people
46	Because maybe it hid
47	Because there are three people that said it, and for the green door, there's only one person that said it
48	Because there are more people
49	Because he was kinda looking that way to the blue door

50	Because blue is my favorite color
51	n/a
52	I don't know
53	Because only one said they saw it through the green door and 3 said they saw it through the blue door
54	n/a
55	Because there's only one person [on the blue side] and all of them think it. And then [pointing at green side] one person there, one person there, and one person there. So there's like 6 people believing there [on the green side] and only like 4 people believing there [on the blue side]
56	I don't know (parents prompted) because it's my favorite color
57	Because more people said they were on the green door
58	Because one person for every one
59	I don't know [prompted] because it was closer
60	I don't know
61	Because there's three people
62	Because there's only one there
63	Because there's three
64	Because three
65	Because there's more kids that saw the hamster
66	because I don't know
67	Because there's more people
68	Because it ran away
69	Because I saw him there
70	Because there's more people that they guessed
71	I think that blue is my favorite color
72	Because there's 3 people that said it
73	Because there's more students saying the green than the blue
74	Because it has more
75	Because there's one person
76	n/a
77	Because she said she saw it
78	Because there's more people
79	Because it's Declan's third favorite color
80	Because there are 6 students
81	Because it's my favorite color
82	Because there's more students that think they saw it
83	Because there's more green
84	n/a
85	n/a

86	n/a
87	Because there's only one person that said that
88	Because he ran away
89	Because there was 3 people [pointed to sources on screen]
90	Because he probably might like the color blue
91	n/a
92	Because the hamster loves green
93	Because it's more likely that he ran through the green door, because more people saw it. For that [green] it's 6, for that [blue] it's 4
94	Because it had the most people
95	n/a
96	Because more kids said it, so it's more likely to be the blue door than the green door
97	Because these 3 kids said - actually blue, because there's more children who listened to that person
98	n/a
99	Because it has the most people that told her it was there
100	n/a
101	Because there's three versus one
102	n/a
103	n/a
104	because they all vote for her
105	Because those people all said they saw it
106	Because I saw a piece of the door and I thought it was kind of blue
107	Because she told them that she saw the hamster through the green door
108	Because the hamster is in there
109	Because only one person knew
110	I think the people on the blue door are smarter
111	Because all of the girls picked one girl
112	Because
113	Because more people said that
114	Because they each saw it for three person, but those just voted for one person
115	Because more people saw it
116	Because the hamster must've went through that door...because maybe he liked the blue door
117	Because
118	n/a
119	Because there's a lot more people that think it
120	n/a
121	Because blue is my favorite color
122	Because they said the hamster was through the blue door

123	n/a
124	n/a
125	Because there's more people on that side
126	because I don't know
127	Cause the hamster ran in the green door

Experiment 3 Children

N	Explanation
1	Because there was more
2	Because there was three people on that side
3	I thought it was the green door because more people said it was it was on the green door than the blue door so if more people saw it, maybe it's more likely to be on the green side
4	because at the starting, the most people said the green side
5	n/a
6	n/a
7	the blue door, because I just did
8	n/a
9	n/a
10	because he wants to eat food outside
11	cuz more kids said they saw it
12	cuz I think that it would've ran...I don't think it ran through the green door because the green door is more greenish...has to be blue
13	cuz it looks like if he was a person and he writed right-handed, he would have run out the right side
14	because there's three people than one
15	because even though three people knew that the hamster ran through the green door, it's just because one person told them she saw it there, but three people are smarter than one person
16	because it's three people
17	because all three of them said, and for the green door, only one of them said
18	because he didn't know what his left and right is, so he just ran through one door
19	because I think that they [blue] were maybe saying the wrong thing
20	more two on that side, not one
21	more people were on that side
22	because I thought he...went through the blue door
23	because her hand [teacher's hand] is showing it there

24	because it looks like they're voting, this one has one person and this one has three persons, so I picked the green door
25	because three people voted for that and only one person said it was in the green door
26	because more people saw him on the green than the blue door
27	because when *I* went through the green door, I smelled hamster smells, then I sneezed
28	n/a
29	because there's three people saying that it went out that door, and one person saying that it went out that door
30	because more people were on that side...one there and three there
31	because there's three people instead of one people
32	because more kids said they saw it...well more kids said they saw it run through the blue door than the green door
33	because there's three people on this side, but they only heard from one student. Because maybe she's drunk
34	n/a
35	n/a
36	because he probably liked blue
37	n/a
38	because the green door has more students
39	I think the green because when I saw the hamster I thought I saw his head tilting towards the green door
40	cuz there's more people who saw it than the green door
41	because...well wait...I don't know! I saw the hamster go through both doors! [Experimenter re-prompted: "well the hamster only went through ONE of the doors. Can you tell me, where is the hamster?" Child changed to blue: "because one person said it was blue, and then three people said blue, and there's only one person on the green side."]
42	because...the most people said they saw it
43	I don't know
44	because, he doesn't know...because I don't know
45	because there was more students that said they saw it. There was one person to the three students, but there were more people who said they saw it through the green door. So the green door is probably it, don't you think?
46	n/a
47	because the green door...the...cuz one person thinks that lots of persons saw it. On the blue side, 3 person think 1 person saw it. More people actually saw it on the green side
48	because this one have lot [blue] and this one have a lot [green]...because there's a lot of girls over here?
49	because all three of them said that the hamster ran on the blue door
50	because it run over the blue door
51	because these students said it ran through the blue door, and only one student said it ran through the green door
52	because there's three students on the green side

53	I don't know
54	cuz it went through the green door
55	cuz I saw it
56	n/a
57	n/a
58	because he escaped away
59	because he ran through the green
60	n/a
61	because a lot more people say the blue door and she heard it from a lot of other people, the other kids heard it from only one person
62	because she could just be making it up, and if multiple students saw it then yeah
63	because three kids said so - I mean four
64	cuz one student said the hamster ran through the green door
65	because there's more kids on the blue side
66	because all these ones, the green ones, they saw the hamster go through the green door. And only one, that one might need glasses...to see...that one might be blind [Referring to single primary source on blue side]
67	because more people saw it go through there
68	because it has more kids
69	Because he wanted to hide
70	because more kids
71	because three people told
72	many people
73	the three right here saw the hamster go in there
74	cause there's only less, more students doesn't mean that and less students can tell the truth
75	not sure
76	because there's more people
77	because he wanted to
78	n/a
79	they said the hamster ran through that door
80	three people said the hamster ran through the green door and only one said they ran through the blue door
81	I like those children
82	not asked; experimenter error
83	because there's more people on it
84	There's more people on the blue side
85	There's more people on the green
86	not sure
87	n/a
88	Because there's more people in here

89	Mary, Sarah, and Kayla said it
90	There's more people who said it
91	I don't know
92	They ran through the blue door
93	Not sure
94	There's more people on there than the green door
95	Because there's more people saying that than are on the other side
96	Because it's my favorite color
97	more people said... there's more evidence
98	because only one person on that side and three more on that side
99	because more people said the blue door
100	I don't know
101	because there's more people
102	n/a
103	n/a
104	because...um...uh...the students said
105	I don't know
106	n/a
107	because those girls [3 girls who initially endorsed the door] saw them there
108	I don't know
109	because more students...told...because three students told that way [green], and one student told that way [blue]
110	Because...I think I saw it run through the green door
111	Because it's three people on that side
112	n/a
113	Because he was on there
114	I think because he wanted to go to that place first
115	I don't know
116	because more people said it
117	n/a
118	cuz they picked it
119	n/a
120	because there's more people on that side
121	n/a
122	because there's more people that saw it
123	because there's more students who said they saw it there
124	because they have the most votes right now
125	because there's more people on green than blue... actually, no, they're the same
126	because more people are telling them

Experiment 3 Adults

N	Explanation
1	Opinion from multiple people rather than just one... not opinion but like evidence
2	There's more sources of information
3	more people directly saw and reported that the hamster went through the blue door
4	there's more witnesses
5	Because more people saw it there
6	Because more people saw it there
7	Because I...forgot her name...because she [pointing to single student] heard three different people say it went through the blue door
8	Because the girl has more people who saw it going through the green door, whereas the blue only has one reference
9	Because more people saw him run through the blue door
10	Because the most amount of people saw it actually happen
11	because more people seemed to have seen it go through the blue door
12	Because there were more first person accounts of seeing it go through the green door. The blue door there were all second person accounts.
13	because three people saw it through the blue door, and only one person saw it through the green door
14	Because three people saw it
15	Because more people saw it go through the blue door instead of one person on the green door
16	Because more people said that they saw the hamster running through the green door
17	Because there are four people who independently say they ran through the blue door but there appears to be only one person who independently said he ran through the green door.
18	Because that student... talked to more people and if there's more people who saw what happened then they're more trustworthy.
19	Because more people saw the hamster by that door
20	Because more people reported seeing it go through the green door
21	Because I believe the one student
22	Because there are more people who said the hamster ran through the green door
23	Because three students saw the hamster go through that door vs. one
24	Because more people said they saw it run through the green door
25	Because there was more firsthand eyewitnesses
26	Well with the blue door you have three people believing blue door cause of one person but for the green door you have one person believing three people. It seems like that even though you only have one person saying its green door they have that evidence backed up by three people not one.
27	Because more different people reported actually seeing it instead of hearing about it
28	Because more people saw the hamster directly run through the green door

29	It's probably true that this person [single primary source] said the hamster ran through the green door, and the likelihood of this or this person lying would be about equal but then its less likely that this person [blue secondary source] would lie to the teacher...
30	Because more people saw it go through the green door than people saw it go through the blue door

Experiment 4

N	Explanation:
1	n/a
2	Because, they saw him there and right out through the green door
3	Because the hamster was running... Because he was running all day!
4	n/a
5	Because I have car sets
6	I love blue
7	n/a
8	Because it helps if it's dark and green is the dark color
9	I don't know
10	Because he ran away
11	n/a
12	Cause... the... lots of children think the green one
13	because it's blue
14	Because they have so many people in there
15	n/a
16	Because I see that– when umm, like, (unintelligible) And umm, there's heads and those are on the green side
17	Because there's more people
18	n/a
19	n/a
20	Because he ran through the blue door
21	n/a
22	Because I just thought it did
23	n/a
24	because I think so
25	because there's more people
26	because there's more people
27	Because they said that's green... because I don't know which one they went so I just said green
28	n/a

29	because he likes blue
30	Because there's a lot of people that said that
31	n/a
32	not sure
33	because I saw the hamster run through the blue door
34	there's more on blue than green
35	n/a
36	I don't know

Scripts

To see each script embedded in the stimuli we showed participants, see the project OSF page.

Experiment 1 (counterbalance 1)

Look [child name]. Here is a classroom! In the classroom there are two doors: The blue door and the green door.

The class has a pet hamster. But today, the hamster got out of his cage, and he ran away.

This is the teacher. She did NOT see where the hamster went. She needs to go look for him. So she needs to know if the hamster ran through the BLUE door, or if the hamster ran through the GREEN door.

Because the teacher did NOT see where the hamster went, she decided to ask some students in the class. Let's see what they have to say. [blue speech bubble appears next to student] This student says, "The hamster ran through the blue door". So we'll put her here, on the blue side. [green speech bubble appears next to student] This student says, "The hamster ran through the green door". So we'll put her here on the green side.

"Oh no," the teacher said, "I DON'T KNOW where to look for the hamster! The student on the blue side says he ran out the blue door, and the student on the green side says he ran out the green door. Hmm. Maybe I can ask one more question to figure out where the hamster went."

First, the teacher asked the student on the blue side, "Can you tell me WHY you said the hamster ran through the blue door?" The student said, "Because Mary said she saw it there [face appears], because Sarah said she saw it there [face appears], and because Kayla said she saw it there [face appears]." So this student said blue because Mary, Sarah, and Kayla all told her they saw the hamster on the blue side. Next, the teacher asked the student on the green side. "can you tell me WHY you said the hamster ran through the green door?" The student said, "because Annie said she saw it there [face appears]." So this student said green because Annie told her she saw the hamster on the green side.

Test question: [Child name], we need your help! Can you tell me, where is the hamster? Through the blue door or through the green door?

REPEAT ANSWER, then say: And why do you think so? REPEAT THEIR EXPLANATION

Experiment 2 (counterbalance 1)

Look [child name]. Here is a classroom! In the classroom there are two doors: The blue door and the green door.

The class has a pet hamster. But today, the hamster got out of his cage, and he ran away.

This is the teacher. She did NOT see where the hamster went. She needs to go look for him. So she needs to know if the hamster ran through the BLUE door, or if the hamster ran through the GREEN door.

Because the teacher did NOT see where the hamster went, she decided to ask some students in the class. Let's see what they have to say. [blue speech bubbles appear next to three of the students] These students say "The hamster ran through the blue door". So we'll put them here, on the blue side. [green speech bubbles appear next to each of the remaining students] These students say, "The hamster ran through the green door." So we'll put them here, on the green side.

"Oh no," the teacher said, "I DON'T KNOW where to look for the hamster! The students on the blue side say he ran out the blue door, and the students on the green side say he ran out the green door. Hmm. Maybe I can ask one more question to figure out where the hamster went." First, the teacher asked the students on the blue side, "Can you tell me WHY you said the hamster ran through the blue door?" The students said, "Because Mary said she saw it there [face appears], because Sarah said she saw it there [face appears], and because Kayla said she saw it there [face appears]." So these students said blue because Mary, Sarah, and Kayla all said they saw the hamster on the blue side. Next, the teacher asked the students on the green side, "Can you tell me WHY you said the hamster ran through the green door?" The students said, "because Annie said she saw it there" [face appears]. So these students said green because Annie said she saw the hamster on the green side.

Test question: [Child name], we need your help! Can you tell me, where is the hamster? Through the blue door or through the green door?

REPEAT ANSWER, then say: And why do you think so? REPEAT THEIR EXPLANATION

Experiment 3 (counterbalance 1)

Look [child name]. Here is a classroom! In the classroom there are two doors: The blue door and the green door.

The class has a pet hamster. But today, the hamster got out of his cage, and he ran away.

This is the teacher. She did NOT see where the hamster went. She needs to go look for him. So she needs to know if the hamster ran through the BLUE door, or if the hamster ran through the GREEN door.

Because the teacher did NOT see where the hamster went, she decided to ask some students in the class. Let's see what they have to say. [Blue speech bubble appears next to one of the students] This student says, "The hamster ran through the blue door". So we'll put her here, on the blue side. [green speech bubbles appear next to each of the three remaining students] These students say, "The hamster ran through the green door." So we'll put them here, on the green side.

"Oh no," the teacher said, "I DON'T KNOW where to look for the hamster! The student on the blue side says he ran out the blue door, and the students on the green side say he ran out the green door. Hmm. Maybe I can ask one more question to figure out where the hamster went." First, the teacher asked the student on the blue side, "Can you tell me WHY you said the hamster ran through the blue door?" The student said, "Because Mary said she saw it there [face appears], because Sarah said she saw it there [face appears], and because Kayla said she saw it there [face appears]." So this student said blue because Mary, Sarah, and Kayla all told her they saw the hamster on the blue side. Next, the teacher asked the students on the green side, "can you tell me WHY you said the hamster ran through the green door?" The students said, "because Annie said she saw it there" [face appears]. So these students said green because Annie said she saw the hamster on the green side.

Test question: [Child name], we need your help! Can you tell me, where is the hamster? Through the blue door or through the green door?

REPEAT ANSWER, then say: And why do you think so? REPEAT THEIR EXPLANATION

Experiment 4 (counterbalance 1)

Look [child name]. Here is a classroom! In the classroom there are two doors: The blue door and the green door.

The class has a pet hamster. But today, the hamster got out of his cage, and he ran away.

This is the teacher. She did NOT see where the hamster went. She needs to go look for him. So she needs to know if the hamster ran through the BLUE door, or if the hamster ran through the GREEN door.

Because the teacher did NOT see where the hamster went, she decided to ask some students in the class. Let's see what they have to say. [Blue speech bubbles appear next to three of the students] These students say, "The hamster ran through the blue door". So we'll put them here, on the blue side. [A green speech bubble appears next to the single remaining student] This student says, "The hamster ran through the green door." So we'll put her here, on the green side.

Test question: [Child name], we need your help! Can you tell me, where is the hamster? Through the blue door or through the green door?

REPEAT ANSWER, then say: And why do you think so? REPEAT THEIR EXPLANATION