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DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING OF SPATIAL ABILITY IN CHILDREN

Spatial ability is a key aspect of children's thinking. Children's spatial skills are fundamental to later success and achievement in the domain of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The great importance of STEM for the future of our complex technological society emphasizes the need for effectively identifying and nurturing spatial talent in children.

The present thesis contributes to this need by:

- Uncovering the developmental trajectories of different types of spatial ability in children between eight and twelve years old;
- Investigating psychological and social-environmental factors that contribute to individual differences in these trajectories;
- Examining to what extent differences in spatial ability are malleable.

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