

# Opinion Topics

**Opinion Prompt #1:** Some of you may have heard of the famous "Marshmallow Test" given to 4-6 year olds. Although it has been replicated many times since, the experiment was first executed in the late '60s and led by psychologist Walter Mischel of Stanford University. The purpose of the test was to see if a child at this age was able to "delay gratification" in the present in exchange for better gains in the near future, could we predict success in various areas of their future lives.

According to the original study outcomes, "researchers found that children who were able to wait longer for the preferred rewards tended to have better life outcomes, as measured as measured by [SAT scores](#)

[\(Links to an external site.\)](#)

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Please do NOT look up or research subsequent experiments until *AFTER* you have responded to this week's prompts.

**Opinion prompt #2:** Please summarize your reaction to the article in Box 4.2 (and figure 4.25) "Imaginary Companions"

**Opinion prompt #3:** What is your opinion on organized sports for middle childhood ages? Make sure you have thoroughly read the section on "Sports" from chapter 5 (pages 154-156 if you have a printed copy of the text) *that spotlights reasons children tend to drop out or stop playing.*

