Emergence and Developmental trajectory of Ecological Active Learning

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The internet has made information available at our fingertips at all times: Search engines, accessed via our computers, tablets, or smart phones, allow us to look up things whenever and wherever we want—an enhanced encyclopedia of factual knowledge. This pseudo-infinite space of immediately available knowledge has drastically reduced our need to learn and memorize facts. However, it has increased the urgency to know how to navigate this space effectively. This revolution, triggered by the era of globalization and digitalization, calls for a new science of learning, one that is more focused on how and what to learn—how to effectively ask questions and explore, which sources of information to trust and rely on, how to adapt one's learning strategies to dynamic and multimodal learning environments, how to interpret the information collected, integrating them in one's existing body of knowledge—rather than on standard learning contents. This talk presents the results of recent studies investigating theoretically and empirically the emergence of these abilities, their developmental trajectory across childhood and the factors impacting their success.