Today's study is all about how you puny humans develop the ability to ignore unwanted sounds.

The more noise there is around, the harder it is for you to hear things with your tiny earth ears. But it isn’t just the quantity of noise that makes hearing difficult. Its quality also matters.

A quiet but interesting noise – like somebody talking nearby – can be more distracting than a louder, boring noise – like the hum of a car engine.

Previous research indicates that children are particularly prone to being distracted by ‘interesting’ sounds.

We shall play a game with your human children to find out how much different distracting noises impair children's ability to hear the bleeps that we aliens make.

This will allow us to see how your ability to hear in noisy environments improves with age.

Use your feeble earth technology to find out more about this study and hearing in general:

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