

Sylvia Pinheiro, Ph.D.

Research Associate

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2023 - present **Research Associate / Lab Coordinator**
Department of Psychology, Queen's University
Advisor: Dr. Valerie Kuhlmeier

EDUCATION

2018 - 2024 **Ph.D., Queen's University**
Developmental Psychology
Dissertation: Children's sharing behavior in the virtual environment
Supervisor: Dr. Valerie Kuhlmeier

2014-2016 **M.Sc., Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte (UFRN)**
Cognitive Neuroscience
Thesis: Speech graph analysis of literary texts: Investigation of psychotic traits
Supervisor: Dr. Sidarta Ribeiro

2014-2016 **B.Ed. (*Licenciatura*), Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte (UFRN)**
Biology

2009-2013 **B.Sc., Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte (UFRN)**
Biology
Thesis: CREB as a transcription factor of cell cycle and survival on the development of the central nervous system.

Supervisor: Dr. Marcos Costa

FURTHER EDUCATION

- 2026 - present Specialization in Generative AI for Education (May 2026 - present, IBM & Coursera)
- 2026 Transforming Higher Education with Generative AI (2026, Lund University & Coursera)
- 2015 Latin America School for Education, Cognitive and Neural Sciences (2015, PUC Chile and James S. McDonnell Foundation)

HONOURS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2023 – 2024 Graduate Research Fellowship
- 2023 Excellence in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Research at Queen's University Psychology Department
- 2020 Queen's University Open Textbook Fund
Scientific Illustration Work.
- 2018 – 2022 Queen's University Graduate Award.
International Tuition Award.
- 2015 Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of Argentina.
Training award.
- 2015 LA School for Education, Cognitive and Neural Sciences
James S. McDonnell Foundation
Travel and Training Award.
- 2014 – 2016 Federal Agency for Support and Evaluation of Graduate Education (CAPES Foundation – Brazil).
Masters Graduate Award.

2012-2014 Teaching Initiation Scholarship
Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte

2011 – 2012 Program for the Federal University's Structure and Expansion
(REUNI - Brazil)
Undergraduate Research Assistant Award.

PUBLICATIONS & OUTREACH

Academic Publications

Shore, M. J., Bukovsky, D. L., Pinheiro, S. G., Hancock, B. M., Liptrot, E. M., & Kuhlmeier, V. A. (2023). A survey on the challenges, limitations, and opportunities of online testing of infants and young children during the COVID-19 pandemic: Using our experiences to improve future practices. *Frontiers in Psychology, 14*, 1160203.

Karasewich, T. A., Hines, C., Pinheiro, S. G. V., Buchenrieder, N., Dunfield, K. A., & Kuhlmeier, V. A. (2023). Examining the influence of shyness on children's helping and comforting behaviour. *Frontiers in Psychology, 14*, 1128588.

Pinheiro, S. G. V., Mota, N. B., Sigman, M., Fernández-Slezak, D., Guerreiro, A., Tófoli, L. F., ... & Ribeiro, S. (2020). The history of writing reflects the effects of education on discourse structure: implications for literacy, orality, psychosis and the axial age. *Trends in neuroscience and education, 21*, 100142.

Mota, N. B., Pinheiro, S. G. V., Guerreiro, A., Copelli, M., & Ribeiro, S. (2021). Nonsemantic word graphs of texts spanning ~4500 years, including pre-literate Amerindian oral narratives. *Data in Brief, 38*, 107296.

Outreach Publications

Burrows, H. M. R., McCreary, M. K., Shore, M. J., Pinheiro, S. G. V., Kuhlmeier, V. A.

(2023). *Animals Helping Animals: How Dog Detectives Can Help Save Endangered Species*. *Front. Young Minds* 11:1023547.

Pinheiro, S. G. V.; Payumo, M., Karasewich, T. A., Kuhlmeier, V. A. (2022). *The Science of Psychology* [Activity Book]. Queen's University and Science Rendezvous Kingston. Retrieved May 7th, 2026 from https://www.queensu.ca/psychology/sites/psycwww/files/uploaded_files/DEV%20Studies/Science_Rendezvous_Activity_Book_2022.pdf

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW / IN PREPARATION

Pinheiro, S. G. V., Shore, M., MacGowan, T., Bukovsky, D., Hancock, B. Karasewich, T., Tusche, A., Kuhlmeier, V. A. *eSharing: Developmental Signatures of Fairness and Reputation in the Virtual World* (under review).

Pinheiro, S. G. V., Dutra, N. B., Silveira, L. G. S., Bas, L. M., Boccardi, N., Tusche, A., Lopes, F., Kuhlmeier, V. A. *It's What You Think You Have: Subjective Socioeconomic Status Influences Children's Sharing Across Two Countries* (in preparation).

Pinheiro, S. G. V., Silveira, L. G. S., Neves, R. A. P., Lopes, F. A., Dutra, N. B. Adaptation and validation of the Subjective Inequality Scale to Brazilian Portuguese (in preparation).

Pinheiro, S. G. V., Kuhlmeier, V. A. Universal but not equal: sharing behavior as a conditional adaptation. (in preparation).

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Pinheiro, S. G. V., Silveira, L. G. S., Lopes, M. E. L., Neves, R. A. P., Lopes, F. A., Dutra, N. B., Kuhlmeier, V. "Bridging (Virtual) Borders: Insights from studying sharing behaviour online in Canada and Brazil". Society for Research in Child Development 2025 Biennial Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, USA.

Pinheiro, S. G. V., Hancock, B., Shore, M., Bukovsky, D., Kuhlmeier, V. A. (2022, June 15-16). Sharing in a virtual environment: Developmental trends from 3.5 to 11 years of age. Development 2022 Conference, Calgary, AB, Canada.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Pinheiro, S. G. V., Kuhlmeier, V. A. *Norms and Hierarchies: How children's sharing in Brazil and Canada develops to adjust to their social world.* (2026) Cognitive Development Society Biennial Conference, Montreal, QC, Canada.

Pinheiro, S. G. V., Bas, L. M., Tusche, A., Kuhlmeier, V. A. *Children's Subjective Socioeconomic Status and its Effect on Sharing Behavior in an Online Dictator Game.* (2023). Society for Neuroeconomics Meeting. Vancouver, BC, Canada.

Pinheiro, S. G. V., Hancock, B., Shore, M., Bukovsky, D., Liprot, E., Piccolo, L., Jones, S. Kuhlmeier, V. A. (2022). *Costly sharing in a virtual environment: Examining developmental trends from 3.5 to 11 years of age.* Cognitive Development Society Biennial Conference, Madison, WI, United States.

Pinheiro, S. G. V., Karasewich, T. A., Dunfield, K. A., Kuhlmeier, V. A. (2019) *What makes comforting difficult for young children?* Cognitive Development Society Biennial Conference, Louisville, USA.

Pinheiro, S. G. V., Mota, N. B., Copelli, M., Cecchi, G., Slezak, D. F., Sigman, M., Ribeiro, S. (2015). *A study on evolution and psychopathologies using Speechgraphs on literary texts.* IX International Brain Research Organization, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Pinheiro, S. G. V., Santana, T., Costa, M.R. (2013) - *CREB as a transcription factor and its role on cell cycle and neuronal survival* - Symposium of Brazilian Society for Neuroscience and Behavior, Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

STUDENT SUPERVISION

Emma Liprot*, Lexie Piccolo* (2021, Queen's University), Montana Shore*, Brendan Hancock* (2022, Queen's University), Rute Melo* (in progress, UFRN), Alessandra Passos* (in progress, UFPA), Livia Monteiro* (in progress, UFPA), Madhumita Rajagopal#, Maria de Lima# (2026, Queen's University)

* denotes undergraduate student thesis; # denotes undergraduate student directed lab; * denotes MSc student

TEACHING

2022	Comparative Cognition (PSYC 305) Teaching Assistant - Queen's University
2021	Cognitive and Language Development (PSYC 352) Teaching Assistant and Guest Lecturer - Queen's University
2019 – 2020	Psycholinguistics (PSYC 321) Teaching Assistant - Queen's University
2019 – 2020	Developmental Psychology (PSYC 251) Teaching Assistant - Queen's University
2015	Science Communication Teaching Assistant – UFRN
2012	Biophysics Teaching Assistant - UFRN

ACADEMIC AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

2025 – present	Child and Adolescent Development Group - Queen's University. Social Media Strategist, knowledge translation, content creation.
2024 – present	Developmental Outreach and Recruitment Action – Department of Psychology at Queen's University. Committee member.

- 2021 – present Social Cognition Lab.
Social Media manager, knowledge translation, content creation.
- 2020 – 2021 Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee – Department of
Psychology at Queen’s University.
Graduate Student Representative.
- 2020 – 2022 Association of Graduate Students in Psychology (AGSIP) – Queen’s
University.
Social Events Coordinator.
- 2019 – present Science Rendezvous.
Event organization for the Child and Adolescent Development Group.
- 2012 – 2016 Brain Awareness Week – UFRN.
Event organization.