MEET THE

cleverest animals

KNOWN TO SCIENCE ...

There are some skills which are key signs of intelligence in humans. They include memory, creativity and communication. Recently, scientists have been investigating these skills in animals too. They've found out some surprising things!

(1) .....

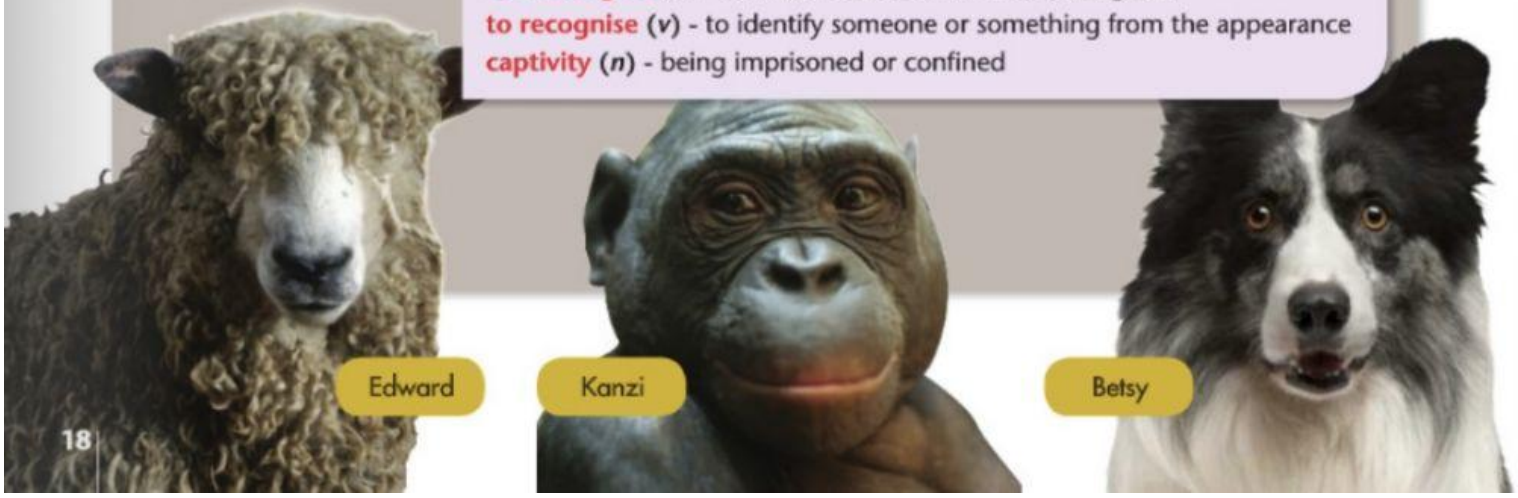
Biologist Keith Kendrick has been testing the memory of sheep like Edward for several years. He's proved that sheep can remember faces for about two years. They recognise both other sheep and humans, and they prefer faces that show happiness to anger or fear!

(2) .....

In the wild, orangutans make leaves into rain hats, pillows and even gloves. Orangutans are expert tool users. An orangutan called Fu Manchu has escaped from a zoo three times, using a piece of wire to unlock his cage. Scientists have been studying how animals use tools since 1960, when Jane Goodall first reported it. They've discovered that in addition to primates, elephants, many birds and even octopuses use tools.

(3) .....

Kanzi is a bonobo. Bonobos are a type of chimpanzee which only live in the Congo, but Kanzi has always lived in captivity. He's been 'talking' to humans since he was a baby. He's learned to use more than 360 keyboard symbols and he understands thousands of spoken words. He's been playing the piano for us this morning. He's pretty good at it – he's even played with Paul McCartney! And finally, meet Betsy, who has been busy today too. She's been running around, collecting objects for researchers. Betsy is so clever that she understands pictures as well as spoken words. So, when you show her a photo of a ball, she brings you a ball. Do you think she'll recognise herself in this photo?

GLOSSARY

creativity (*n*) - using the imagination to create something
to investigate (*v*) - to make a check to find something out
to recognise (*v*) - to identify someone or something from the appearance
captivity (*n*) - being imprisoned or confined