

Learning Target: I will be able to describe and explain the differences between instincts and learned behavior.

Instincts vs. Learned Behavior Video Notes



1. Instincts are _____ behaviors that are _____ into an animal's biology and do not require _____ or experience. All animals (including humans) have innate instincts that we have _____ during our evolution.

Examples of Instincts:

Mating behaviors: Many animals have instinctual mating behaviors such as _____ rituals and _____ behaviors, that help them _____ a mate and _____.

2. How do male peacocks attract a mate? _____

3. What does a peahen look at to determine which peacock she is going to mate with? _____

Parenting behaviors: Many animals have instinctual _____ behaviors, such as _____ and _____, that help them _____ for their young.

4. What do bears do when their cubs are threatened? _____

Foraging behaviors: Many animals have instinctual _____ behaviors, such as searching for _____ and gathering resources that help them find the _____ they need to _____.

5. What is an instinctual behavior of bees? _____

6. What is an instinctual behavior of spiders? _____

7. Do instinctual behaviors have to be taught? _____ Explain your answer. _____

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Social behaviors: Many animals have instinctual _____ behaviors, such as _____ and group dynamics that help them _____ with others in their species.

8. Why do most species of animals like to stay in herds or groups? _____

Quick Checks for Understanding! Think about the instinctual behaviors we just talked about and how they apply to humans. Take 5 minutes to write your responses.

How do humans interact in social settings to fit in? _____

How do humans go about getting the resources we need to survive? _____

What are the parenting behaviors that we show to protect and care for our young? _____

Learned Behaviors

9. How are many common animal behaviors learned? _____

Learning is the _____ of knowledge or _____ which leads to a _____ in the _____ of an organism. Learning helps an organism _____ to different situations.

Foraging for food: How do most animals learn how to forage for food? _____

Avoiding predators: Why is this learned behavior important? _____

10. Name 3 ways octopuses avoid or evade predators? _____

Social behaviors: What social behaviors do organisms learn from each other? _____

Tool use: What do woodpecker finches use twigs for? _____

11. What do chimpanzees use sticks for? _____

12. What is the difference between instincts and learned behavior? _____

Quick Check for Understanding! Pause the video, you have 5 minutes to complete. You got this!

Determine whether the following examples are instinctive or learned behaviors.

Dad & Daughter making dinner	Rabbit eating plants	Hen protecting newborn chicks
		

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