

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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 **LIVEWORKSHEETS**