



'Language' and Intelligence in Monkeys and Apes: Comparative Developmental Perspectives

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This collection of articles is completely and explicitly devoted to the new field of comparative developmental evolutionary psychology--that is, to studies of primate abilities based on frameworks drawn from developmental psychology and evolutionary biology. These frameworks include Piagetian and neo-Piagetian models as well as psycholinguistic ones. The articles in this collection--originating in Japan, Spain, Italy, France, Canada, and the United States--represent a variety of backgrounds in human and nonhuman primate research. The authors focus on such areas as the nature of culture, intelligence, language, and imitation; the differences among species in mental abilities and developmental patterns; and the evolution of life histories and of mental abilities and their neurological bases.

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Editorial Review

Review

"These volumes should be on the bookshelf of the educated layperson and scientist who wants to learn more about the evolutionary roots of behavioral processes and competencies that may no longer be held to be uniquely human." Duane M. Rumbaugh, American Scientist

"The volume will be of interest to those seeking an overview of the relative behavioral development, cognitive achievement, and linguistic abilities of various primates." Biological Anthropology

"...a valuable contribution to the understanding of intelligence across species. Both the contributions of Piagetian studies to comparative intelligence and the theoretical and methodological weakness of such a structural approach are cogently addressed." International Journal of Primatology

"...provide[s] highly significant contributions to the fields of animal behavior, ethology, comparative psychology and cognition and behavioral biology. They do what single issues of journals only rarely try to do, and that is to integrate past research with new data, obtained from a wide variety of contexts and methods, through the use of scaffolds of questions and themes." Duane M. Rumbaugh, American Scientist

From the Back Cover

The editors conceived this book with the double purpose of introducing to a larger public a new approach to the study of animal abilities and of stimulating additional studies in the new research program described in this volume. The research program, which we call 'comparative developmental evolutionary psychology,' is based on the application of frameworks from human developmental psychology and evolutionary biology to comparative studies of primate abilities.

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