

Function Evolution Of Behavior

Evolution, Brain, and

Behavior R. B. Masterton

2019-01-22 First published in 1976. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

The Behavior of Animals

Johan J. Bolhuis 2021-12-08

The Behavior of Animals An updated view of animal behavior studies, featuring global experts The Behavior of Animals, Second Edition provides a broad overview of the current state of animal behavior studies with contributions from international experts. This edition includes new chapters on hormones and behavior, individuality, and human evolution. All chapters have been thoroughly revised and updated, and are supported by color illustrations, informative callouts, and accessible presentation of technical information. Provides an introduction to the study of

animal behavior Looks at an extensive scope of topics- from perception, motivation and emotion, biological rhythms, and animal learning to animal cognition, communication, mate choice, and individuality. Explores the evolution of animal behavior including a critical evaluation of the assumption that human beings can be studied as if they were any other animal species. Students will benefit from an updated textbook in which a variety of contributors provide their expertise and global perspective in specialized areas

[Function and Evolution of Behavior; an Historical Sample From the Pens of Ethologists.](#)
[Edited by Peter H. Klopfer and Jack P. Hailman](#) Peter H. Klopfer (Comp) 1972

The Evolution of Social

Behaviour Michael Taborsky

2021-08-26 How can the stunning diversity of social systems and behaviours seen in

nature be explained? Drawing on social evolution theory, experimental evidence and studies conducted in the field, this book outlines the fundamental principles of social evolution underlying this phenomenal richness. To succeed in the competition for resources, organisms may either 'race' to be quicker than others, 'fight' for privileged access, or 'share' their efforts and gains. The authors show how the ecology and intrinsic attributes of organisms select for each of these strategies, and how a handful of straightforward concepts explain the evolution of successful decision rules in behavioural interactions, whether among members of the same or different species. With a broad focus ranging from microorganisms to humans, this is the first book to provide students and researchers with a comprehensive account of the evolution of sociality by natural selection.

Spider Webs William Eberhard 2020-12-22 In this

lavishly illustrated, first-ever book on how spider webs are built, function, and evolved, William Eberhard provides a comprehensive overview of spider functional morphology and behavior related to web building, and of the surprising physical agility and mental abilities of orb weavers. For instance, one spider spins more than three precisely spaced, morphologically complex spiral attachments per second for up to fifteen minutes at a time. Spiders even adjust the mechanical properties of their famously strong silken lines to different parts of their webs and different environments, and make dramatic modifications in orb designs to adapt to available spaces. This extensive adaptive flexibility, involving decisions influenced by up to sixteen different cues, is unexpected in such small, supposedly simple animals. As Eberhard reveals, the extraordinary diversity of webs includes ingenious solutions to gain access to prey in esoteric habitats, from blazing hot and shifting sand dunes (to capture

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ants) to the surfaces of tropical lakes (to capture water striders). Some webs are nets that are cast onto prey, while others form baskets into which the spider flicks prey. Some aerial webs are tramways used by spiders searching for chemical cues from their prey below, while others feature landing sites for flying insects and spiders where the spider then stalks its prey. In some webs, long trip lines are delicately sustained just above the ground by tiny rigid silk poles. Stemming from the author's more than five decades observing spider webs, this book will be the definitive reference for years to come.

Evolution and Human Behavior
John Cartwright 2000 The book covers fundamental issues such as the origins and function of sexual reproduction, mating behavior, human mate choice, patterns of violence in families, altruistic behavior, the evolution of brain size and the origins of language, the modular mind, and the relationship between genes and culture.

Behavior of Lizards Vincent Bels 2019-02-06 Key features: Presents a contemporary snapshot of the mechanisms underlying the evolution and adaptation of behavior Explores how genetics, epigenetics, development, and environment shape behavior Discusses a broad range of behavioral repertoires and responses, including those related to thermoregulatory, foraging, predatory, displaying, social and escape strategies. Examines physiological and sensory mechanisms Covers the effects of various aspects of global change on behavior, with chapters that focus on the impacts of climate change on hydroregulatory behavior and behavioral responses to the effects of habitat alteration resulting from human-mediated change and colonization by invasive species. Lizards serve as focal organisms for many of biological questions related to evolution, ecology, physiology, and morphology. They are studied at multiple spatial and temporal scales, from the individual to the community

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level. This book, authored by expert contributors from around the world, explores behaviors underlying the evolution and adaptation of these organisms. It covers conceptual, empirical, and methodological approaches to the understanding of the role that natural and sexual selection play in molding the behavioral traits of lizards. This thorough, illustrated reference should stimulate discussion of the conceptual and methodological approaches for studying the behavioral traits of these fascinating and highly diverse vertebrates.

The Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology

David M. Buss 2005-07-15 The foundations of practice and the most recent discoveries in the intriguing new field of evolutionary psychology Why is the mind designed the way it is? How does input from the environment interact with the mind to produce behavior? By taking aim at such questions, the science of evolutionary psychology has emerged as a vibrant new

discipline producing groundbreaking insights. In *The Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology*, leading contributors discuss the foundations of the field as well as recent discoveries currently shaping this burgeoning area of psychology. Guided by an editorial board made up of such luminaries as Leda Cosmides, John Tooby, Don Symons, Steve Pinker, Martin Daly, Margo Wilson, and Helena Cronin, the text's chapters delve into a comprehensive range of topics, covering the full range of the discipline: Foundations of evolutionary psychology Survival Mating Parenting and kinship Group living Interfaces with traditional disciplines of evolutionary psychology And interfaces across disciplines. In addition to an in-depth survey of the theory and practice of evolutionary psychology, the text also features an enlightening discussion of this discipline in the context of the law, medicine, and culture. An Afterword by Richard Dawkins provides some final thoughts

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from the renowned writer and exponent of evolutionary theory. Designed to set the standard for handbooks in the field, *The Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology* is an indispensable reference tool for every evolutionary psychologist and student.

The Behavior of Animals Johan J. Bolhuis 2021-12-29 *The Behavior of Animals* An updated view of animal behavior studies, featuring global experts *The Behavior of Animals, Second Edition* provides a broad overview of the current state of animal behavior studies with contributions from international experts. This edition includes new chapters on hormones and behavior, individuality, and human evolution. All chapters have been thoroughly revised and updated, and are supported by color illustrations, informative callouts, and accessible presentation of technical information. Provides an introduction to the study of animal behavior Looks at an

extensive scope of topics- from perception, motivation and emotion, biological rhythms, and animal learning to animal cognition, communication, mate choice, and individuality. Explores the evolution of animal behavior including a critical evaluation of the assumption that human beings can be studied as if they were any other animal species. Students will benefit from an updated textbook in which a variety of contributors provide their expertise and global perspective in specialized areas

Cognition, Evolution, and Behavior Sara J. Shettleworth 2010-04-10 How do animals perceive the world, learn, remember, search for food or mates, communicate, and find their way around? Do any nonhuman animals count, imitate one another, use a language, or have a culture? What are the uses of cognition in nature and how might it have evolved? What is the current status of Darwin's claim that other species share the same "mental powers" as

humans, but to different degrees? In this completely revised second edition of *Cognition, Evolution, and Behavior*, Sara Shettleworth addresses these questions, among others, by integrating findings from psychology, behavioral ecology, and ethology in a unique and wide-ranging synthesis of theory and research on animal cognition, in the broadest sense--from species-specific adaptations of vision in fish and associative learning in rats to discussions of theory of mind in chimpanzees, dogs, and ravens. She reviews the latest research on topics such as episodic memory, metacognition, and cooperation and other-regarding behavior in animals, as well as recent theories about what makes human cognition unique. In every part of this new edition, Shettleworth incorporates findings and theoretical approaches that have emerged since the first edition was published in 1998. The chapters are now organized into three sections:

Fundamental Mechanisms (perception, learning, categorization, memory), Physical Cognition (space, time, number, physical causation), and Social Cognition (social knowledge, social learning, communication). Shettleworth has also added new chapters on evolution and the brain and on numerical cognition, and a new chapter on physical causation that integrates theories of instrumental behavior with discussions of foraging, planning, and tool using.

That Complex Whole Lee Cronk
2019-05-20 Our understanding of the evolution of human behavior has grown enormously over the past few decades, and an increasing number of behavioral and social scientists are making use of evolutionary theory in their work to shed light on issues ranging from marriage and parenting to the study of mental illness. The success of this research program is three

Gaining Control Robert Aunger 2015 'Gaining control'

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tells the story of how human behavioral capacities evolved from those of other animal species. Exploring what is known about the psychological capacities of other groups of animals, the authors reconstruct a fascinating history of our own mental evolution. In the book, the authors see mental evolution as a series of steps in which new mechanisms for controlling behavior develop in different species - starting with early representatives of this kingdom, and leading to a species - us - that can engage in a large number of different types of behavioral control. Key to their argument is the idea that each of these steps -- from reflexes to instincts, drives, emotions, and cognitive planning - can be seen as a novel type of psychological adaptation in which information is 'inherited' by an animal from its own behavior through new forms of learning - a form of major evolutionary transition. Thus the mechanisms that result from these steps in increasingly

complex behavioral control can also be seen as the fundamental building blocks of psychology. Such a perspective on behaviour has a number of implications for practitioners in fields ranging from experimental psychology to public health. Short, provocative, and insightful, this book will be of great interest and use to evolutionary psychologists and biologists, anthropologists and the scientific community as a whole.

Behavior and Evolution 1967 **Behaviour and Evolution**

Marion Hall 1998-11-25 This volume examines a variety of aspects of animal behavior and analyzes the underlying relationship between behavior and evolution. Studying behavior draws upon the work of scientists from a number of disciplines, all seeking to answer the question of why an animal behaves in the way it does. The possible answers to this question development, survival value, evolutionary history, and cause-and-effect are explored in this easy-

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to-read introduction to behavior and evolution. Shaping Primate Evolution Fred Anapol 2004-05-20 Shaping Primate Evolution is an edited collection of papers about how biological form is described in primate biology, and the consequences of form for function and behavior. The contributors are highly regarded internationally recognized scholars in the field of quantitative primate evolutionary morphology. Each chapter elaborates upon the analysis of the form-function-behavior triad in a unique and compelling way. This book is distinctive not only in the diversity of the topics discussed, but also in the range of levels of biological organization that are addressed from cellular morphometrics to the evolution of primate ecology. The book is dedicated to Charles E. Oxnard, whose influential pioneering work on innovative metric and analytic techniques has gone hand-in-hand with meticulous comparative functional analyses of primate

anatomy. Through the marriage of theory with analytical applications, this volume will be an important reference work for all those interested in primate functional morphology.

Evolution of Social Behavior and Integrative Levels Gary Greenberg 1988

Social Behaviour Tamás Székely 2010-11-18 A comprehensive analysis of the genetic, ecological and phylogenetic aspects of social behaviour, by experts in the field.

Evolutionary Perspectives on Human Sexual Psychology and Behavior Viviana A. Weekes-Shackelford 2014-07-08 This volume in the Springer Series in Evolutionary Psychology presents a state of the art view of the topic of sexuality and sexual behavior drawing on theoretical constructs and research of noted individuals in the field. Comprehensive and multi-disciplinary, this book seeks to provide a broad overview without sacrificing the complexity of a multi-faceted approach. The book is

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framed by introductory and closing sections that provide a context for the range of ideas contained within. Ample space is provided in designated sections that focus on key areas of sexuality from both male and female perspectives and that include information from primate studies. This volume can serve as a graduate text in sexual behavior in evolutionary terms and as a guide for further research.

Comparative Psychology

Mauricio R. Papini 2002 For courses in Comparative Psychology, Animal Behavior, and Comparative Learning. This introduction to the evolutionary and developmental principles underlying the study of animal behavior provides a broad view of behavior from the comparative psychology perspective. The author discusses all aspects of the subject including comparative learning and cognition, brain evolution and behavior, primate evolution, behavior genetics, behavioral ecology, social behavior in an ecological

context, early experience and development, and the ontogeny of social behavior. Emphasizing problems and research interests that have traditional relevance for psychologists, the text uses examples drawn from specialized journals to provide a firm grasp of evolutionary science as it is applied to the understanding of behavior.

Behavior of Animals Bolhuis
2004-08-01

Perspectives in Ethology Paul Patrick Gordon Bateson
1993-09-30 The current volume focuses on behavioral similarities and differences within individual animals, larger populations, and species as a whole. Research from ecological, social ontogenetic, physiological, and other perspectives is presented to explicate specific behaviors, as well as to provide a more profound understanding of how behavior work influences thought about evolutionary processes.

Evolutionary Behavioral Ecology David Westneat
2010-04 Evolutionary

Behavioral Ecology presents a

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comprehensive treatment of the evolutionary and ecological processes shaping behavior across a wide array of organisms and a diverse set of behaviors and is suitable as a graduate-level text and as a sourcebook for professional scientists.

Animal Behaviour 2004

Behaviour and Evolution Jean

Piaget 2013-04-15 This book was first published in 1979.

Evolution and the Social

Mind Joseph P. Forgas

2011-03-15 This book seeks to combine the study of human social cognition - the way we think, decide, plan and analyze social situations - with an evolutionary framework that considers these activities in light of evolutionary adaptations for solving problems of survival faced by our ancestors over thousands of generations. The chapters report recent research and theories illustrating how evolutionary principles can shed new light on the subtle and often subconscious ways that cognitive mechanisms guide peoples' thoughts,

memories, judgments, attitudes and behaviors in social life. The contributors to this volume, who are leading researchers in their fields, seek answers to such intriguing questions as: how can evolutionary principles help to explain human beliefs, attitudes, judgments, prejudice, and group preferences? Are there benefits to behaving unpredictably? Why are prototypical faces more attractive than atypical ones? How do men and women think about, and select potential mates? What are the adaptive functions of negative affect? What are the evolutionary influences on the way people think about and respond to social exclusion and ostracism? *Evolution and the Social Mind* offers a highly integrated and representative coverage of this emerging field, and is suitable as a textbook in advanced courses dealing with social cognition and evolutionary psychology.

Evolution and Behavior

Lance Workman 2015-09-16

The relationship between how

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we evolved and how we behave is a controversial and fascinating field of study. From how we choose a mate to how we socialize with other people, the evolutionary process has an enduring legacy on the way we view the world. Evolution and Behavior provides students with a thorough and accessible introduction to this growing discipline. Placing evolutionary psychology in context with the core areas of psychology - developmental, cognitive and social - the book explores some of the most fundamental questions we can ask about ourselves. Taking students through the principles of natural selection, it provides a nuanced understanding of key topics such as: cognitive development and the role of intelligence, memory, emotions and perception, mental health and abnormal psychology, sexual reproduction and family relationships, the development of culture. Addressing a number of controversial debates in the field, each chapter also includes concept boxes, the definition of key

terms, chapter summaries and further reading. This is the ideal introductory textbook for anyone interested in evolutionary psychology. It will provide not only an essential overview of this emerging field, but also deepen readers' appreciation of the core tenets of psychology as a whole.

Function and Evolution of Behavior

Peter H. Klopfer
1972 The theoretical essays and empirical studies in this book trace the selective function and historical origins of animal behavior.

Recognizing that libraries cannot always have a complete set of journals, the editors have compiled important original studies which either represent milestones in the development of ethology or are representative papers about important issues. The book is intended as a supplement for courses in ethology, animal behavior, and comparative psychology at the advanced undergraduate or graduate levels. -- from back cover.

The Evolution of Human Social Behavior Joan S. Lockard 1980

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Quantitative Genetic Studies of Behavioral Evolution

Christine R. B. Boake

1994-08-15 Taken together, these studies document both the benefits and pitfalls of quantitative genetics.

Animal Behaviour Christopher J. Barnard 2004 This text provides an introduction to the study of behaviour, from its basis in the animal's anatomy and physiology to its adaptive value in the environment. Chris Barnard provides comprehensive coverage of the four major levels of enquiry - mechanism, development, function and evolution.

Evolution of Animal Behavior

Matthew H. Nitecki 1986 This volume highlights current research in the field of animal behavior, with an emphasis on evolutionary perspectives. The contributors represent paleontological, field, and experimental approaches. They focus on a series of studies that confront wide-ranging issues, including sexual selection, mate choice, differential parental investment, apparent altruism, cooperative behavior,

and the relevance of phylogenetic constraints and historical information. The volume will be of special interest to evolutionary biologists, behavioral ecologists, and paleontologists. *Natural Behavior* Burton A. Weiss 2018-06-30 *Natural Behavior* provides seminal insights into the evolution of animal and human behavior for enthusiasts of Comparative Psychology and Behavioral Biology. Evolution and the behavior of the animal kingdom are discussed with new concepts on science, learning and instinct, and population phenomena. Hominization, interaction with Neanderthals, how the brain evolved, and the impact on the World are described with new views. The origin of our scientific concepts and the trend away from the egocentric position, placing humans at the center of the universe, is considered, along with the status of religion and how the fit with science is positive. This volume carefully explains evolution and the central role of behavior in

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natural selection. The range of animal behavior from single cells to people is covered, as are, topics like European settling of the New World first, and the effects of humans on the planet.

Behaviour, Development and Evolution Patrick Bateson
2017-02-20 The role of parents in shaping the characters of their children, the causes of violence and crime, and the roots of personal unhappiness are central to humanity. Like so many fundamental questions about human existence, these issues all relate to behavioural development. In this lucid and accessible book, eminent biologist Professor Sir Patrick Bateson suggests that the nature/nurture dichotomy we often use to think about questions of development in both humans and animals is misleading. Instead, he argues that we should pay attention to whole systems, rather than to simple causes, when trying to understand the complexity of development. In his wide-ranging approach Bateson discusses why so much

behaviour appears to be well-designed. He explores issues such as 'imprinting' and its importance to the attachment of offspring to their parents; the mutual benefits that characterise communication between parent and offspring; the importance of play in learning how to choose and control the optimal conditions in which to thrive; and the vital function of adaptability in the interplay between development and evolution. Bateson disputes the idea that a simple link can be found between genetics and behaviour. What an individual human or animal does in its life depends on the reciprocal nature of its relationships with the world about it. This knowledge also points to ways in which an animal's own behaviour can provide the variation that influences the subsequent course of evolution. This has relevance not only for our scientific approaches to the systems of development and evolution, but also on how humans change institutional rules that have become

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dysfunctional, or design public health measures when mismatches occur between themselves and their environments. It affects how we think about ourselves and our own capacity for change.

Evolution Driven by Organismal Behavior Rui Diogo 2017-03-08 This book proposes a new way to think about evolution. The author carefully brings together evidence from diverse fields of science. In the process, he bridges the gaps between many different--and usually seen as conflicting--ideas to present one integrative theory named ONCE, which stands for Organic Nonoptimal Constrained Evolution. The author argues that evolution is mainly driven by the behavioral choices and persistence of organisms themselves, in a process in which Darwinian natural selection is mainly a secondary--but still crucial--evolutionary player. Within ONCE, evolution is therefore generally made of mistakes and mismatches and trial-and-error situations, and is not a process

where organisms engage in an incessant, suffocating struggle in which they can't thrive if they are not optimally adapted to their habitats and the external environment. Therefore, this unifying view incorporates a more comprehensive view of the diversity and complexity of life by stressing that organisms are not merely passive evolutionary players under the rule of external factors. This insightful and well-reasoned argument is based on numerous fascinating case studies from a wide range of organisms, including bacteria, plants, insects and diverse examples from the evolution of our own species. The book has an appeal to researchers, students, teachers, and those with an interest in the history and philosophy of science, as well as to the broader public, as it brings life back into biology by emphasizing that organisms, including humans, are the key active players in evolution and thus in the future of life on this wonderful planet.

The Role of Behavior in

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Evolution Henry C. Plotkin
1988 These six original essays focus on a potentially important aspect of evolutionary biology, the possible causal role of phenotypic behavior in evolution. Balancing theory with actual or potential empiricism, they provide the first full examination of this topic. Plotkin's opening chapter outlines the "conceptual minefields" that the contributors attempt to negotiate: What is an adequate theory of evolution? What is behavior and is it possible to maintain a distinction between behavior and other attributes of the phenotype? is all, or only a special subset, of behavior both a cause and a consequence of evolution? And what do the theoretical issues mean in empirical terms? He concludes that any attempt to understand the causal role of behavior in evolution requires a more complicated theoretical structure than that of orthodox neoDarwinism, a conceptualization of behavior as a distinctive set of

phenotypic attributes, and the accumulation of more data. David L. Hull (Northwestern University) provides an alternative account of the evolutionary process by developing a hierarchy of replicators-interactors-lineages to replace the traditional one of genes-organisms-species. Robert N. Brandon (Duke University) also posits hierarchy as an appropriate architecture for the theoretical complexity needed to support an examination of the role of behavior in evolution. F. J. Odling-Smee (Brunei University) outlines a theoretical structure to encompass the behavior of phenotypes, concentrating on the unrestricted definition of behavior (everything that an animal does). The remaining chapters are as much concerned with evidence as with theory. Plotkin concentrates on a restricted definition of behavior (behavior that is a product of choosing intelligence), reviewing our empirical knowledge of how learning might influence

evolution. R.I.M. Dunbar (University College, London) uses empirical studies of vertebrate social behavior to deal with the question of how the social systems, especially of primates, might have a causal role in species evolution. A Bradford Book

Evolution and Contextual

Behavioral Science David Sloan Wilson 2018-09-01 What do evolutionary science and contextual behavioral science have in common? Edited by David Sloan Wilson and Steven C. Hayes, this groundbreaking book offers a glimpse into the histories of these two schools of thought, and provides a sound rationale for their reintegration. Evolutionary science (ES) provides a unifying theoretical framework for the biological sciences, and is increasingly being applied to the human-related sciences. Meanwhile, contextual behavioral science (CBS) seeks to understand the history and function of human behavior in the context of everyday life where behaviors occur, and to influence behavior in a

practical sense. This volume seeks to integrate these two bodies of knowledge that have developed largely independently. In *Evolution and Contextual Behavioral Science*, two renowned experts in their fields argue why ES and CBS are intrinsically linked, as well as why their reintegration—or, reunification—is essential. The main purpose of this book is to continue to move CBS under the umbrella of ES, and to help evolutionary scientists understand how working alongside contextual behavioral scientists can foster both the development of ES principles and their application to practical situations. Rather than the sequential relationship that is typically imagined between these two schools of thought, this volume envisions a parallel relationship between ES and CBS, where science can best influence positive change in the real world.

Exploring Animal Behavior in Laboratory and Field

Bonnie J. Ploger 2003 Designed

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to provide a variety of exercises that engage students actively in all phases of scientific investigation, from formulating research questions through interpreting and presenting final results. Suited to undergraduates, each chapter presents an animal behavior exercise tested by academic members of the Animal Behavior Society. Four types of exercises are presented: (1) traditional exercises in which students follow a pre-determined protocol to test particular hypotheses, (2) traditional exercises that can easily be adapted to inquiry-based approaches, (3) combined pedagogy exercises that involve both traditional and inquiry approaches, and (4) inquiry exercises in which students brainstorm to generate their own hypotheses, then design their own experiments to test them. Exercises cover descriptive ethology, causation and development of behavior, and behavioral ecology. Both field and laboratory exercises are

included on arthropods, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals.

Unto Others Elliott Sober
1999-10-01 No matter what we do, however kind or generous our deeds may seem, a hidden motive of selfishness lurks--or so science has claimed for years. This book, whose publication promises to be a major scientific event, tells us differently. In *Unto Others* philosopher Elliott Sober and biologist David Sloan Wilson demonstrate once and for all that unselfish behavior is in fact an important feature of both biological and human nature. Their book provides a panoramic view of altruism throughout the animal kingdom--from self-sacrificing parasites to insects that subsume themselves in the superorganism of a colony to the human capacity for selflessness--even as it explains the evolutionary sense of such behavior. Explaining how altruistic behavior can evolve by natural selection, this book finally gives credence to the idea of group selection that

was originally proposed by Darwin but denounced as heretical in the 1960s. With their account of this controversy, Sober and Wilson offer a detailed case study of scientific change as well as an indisputable argument for group selection as a legitimate theory in evolutionary biology. Unto Others also takes a novel evolutionary approach in explaining the ultimate psychological motives behind unselfish human behavior. Developing a theory of the proximate mechanisms that most likely evolved to motivate adaptive helping behavior, Sober and Wilson show how people and perhaps other species evolved the capacity to care for others as a goal in itself. A truly interdisciplinary work that blends biology, philosophy, psychology, and anthropology, this book will permanently change not just our view of selfless behavior but also our understanding of many issues in evolutionary biology and the social sciences.

Behavior and Evolution Jean Piaget 1978 What is the

relationship between behavior and the processes which shape evolution? Why has behavior, whether it amounts to no more than a flower's reaction to light or encompasses the complexities of human thought, been so neglected by traditional evolutionary theory? Beginning with these questions, Jean Piaget offers a dazzling, at time demanding, inquiry into the state of our understanding of evolution. This is a task that takes Piaget from an investigation of the early giants Darwin and Lamarck, to the contributions of Weiss and Baldwin, to the role of cybernetics. Along the way he outlines the relation between instinct and evolution, habits and acquired characteristics. He criticizes those who reduce the question to a genetic determinism. And he challenges those who see no qualitative difference between the evolution of anatomical structures and the evolution of behavioral structures. What Piaget develops in this concise and remarkable work is a subtle, sophisticated theory of

behavior in both the plant and the animal worlds. Drawing on his life's work, he argues that all organisms are active and creative, and that the forms of organization they create in their environment go to the heart of the meaning of behavior and the processes of evolution. A prolific writer on philosophy and biology, as well as the father of the development psychology he calls genetic epistemology, Jean Piaget has had as his main area of concern the genesis of abstract concepts (classes, relations, numbers) and physical concepts (space, speed, chance, time) in the developing child. His theories have been widely applied to education.

Cognition, Evolution, and Behavior Sara J. Shettleworth
2009-12-30 How do animals perceive the world, learn, remember, search for food or mates, communicate, and find their way around? Do any nonhuman animals count, imitate one another, use a language, or have a culture? What are the uses of cognition

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