

More Than Cute: The Science of Animal Friendships

The science of animal friendships offers perspective on relationships as a whole. Animals are known to befriend humans, as well as other animals outside of their species. Scientists are interested in these unlikely animal relationships. A puppy riding on a turtle is back, a duckling cuddling with a house cat, a goat trotting along with a rhinoceros -- just a few examples of videos that go viral. Why are humans at the edge of their seats over this? What does this tell us about how animals communicate? Research shows animals are just as capable of forming lasting friendships as humans, and reap many of the same benefits.



photo credit: Pixabay.com

In 2012, the topic graced the cover of TIME magazine --BFFs are not just for humans. Then in 2016, TIME released the special edition The Science of Relationships. On the cover, a photo of a woman hugging her dog appears side by side with photos of an old married couple and a young family. The article, The Best Pets for Your Health, is sandwiched between topics on sibling dynamics and making friends in adulthood. This begs the question: What is friendship? Dr. Barbara J. King, an anthropologist at the College of William and Mary, defines it as a long period of time in which both partners experience mutuality, engagement, and accommodation to meet each other's needs.

Yet this bond extends beyond human companionship and "man's best

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Archi-fact:

The architect described the design of the Kelvingrove Art Gallery as a "astylar composition severely Classic lines free Renaissance treatment in details", however it combines a variety of styles, the best description is Spanish Baroque and the main towers are clearly inspired by the Great Pilgrimage Church of Santiago de Compostela, in Santiago, Spain.

Iconic Building Of The Month

Kelvingrove
Art
Gallery
&
Museum
in
Glasgow
Scotland



photos credite: Commons Wikipedia

Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum in Glasgow, Scotland was designed by architects Sir John W. Simpson and E.J. Milner Allen, as part of the Glasgow International Exhibition. It showcases a strong example of late Victorian and Spanish Baroque architecture. The exterior is made of local Locharbriggs red sandstone. The entrance faces boldly onto Kelvingrove Park as a bronze statue of the patron saint of the city, St. Mungo, stands above the north doorway.

When the gallery opened in 1901, nearly 6 million people flocked to the exhibition. The enthusiasm continues -- now it is known as Glasgow's favorite building. Doors open onto a wealth of sculpture, painting and depictions of music within an interior reminiscent of the Spanish cathedral Santiago de Compostela. Pieces by famous artists such as Botticelli and Rembrandt adorn the upstairs galleries.

Downstairs is home to The Life Gallery. It's star exhibit, writes Undiscovered Scotland, is Sir Roger the Elephant. After a refurbishment by Building Design Partnership Ltd., it won the RIAS Andrew Doolan Award for Architecture 2006. The beloved elephant is joined by a similarly stuffed leopard, donated by Glasgow Zoo, and a wandering albatross, from the Glasgow Museums by the British Antarctic Survey. The Creatures of the Past exhibit honored animals that are native to Scotland, but don't live there anymore -- wolves, bears and wild boars.

Photo credit: flickr

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Archi-Quote

The architect of The Ionic Building of the Month Sir John W. Simpson upon entering architecture school after a three year apprenticeship at his father's architectural office told his friend, Walter Millard the he intended to "Make his own way in the world as quickly as possible" and found "a market ... for his powers as an able and hard working draughtsman."

When the Art Gallery was presented he described the design as "an astylar composition on severely Classic lines, but with free Renaissance treatment in detail"

More Than Cute:

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friend." Scientists are discovering other species share abilities once considered exclusive to humans, including some emotions, tool use, counting, certain aspects of language and even a moral sense, according to the New York Times. Meanwhile, bats form cliques, chimpanzees prefer companions with similar personalities and elephants provide emotional support in times of stress.

Stress is inevitable in the animal kingdom. Yet it is possible for animals who might normally be enemies to resolve their differences. Predators sometimes befriend their prey. A snake considers a hamster for lunch, and then opts to forge a more positive relationship. A snake considers a hamster for lunch, and then opts to forge a positive relationship. Scientists consider whether the predator is more hungry or lonely. Some studied closer the relationship between Amur, the tiger, and Timur

the goat, at the Siberian Zoo. Timur, meant to be Amur's dinner, became his friend. On one hand, a zookeeper speculated an 80 percent chance that Amur will end up eating Timur. On the other, studies show that once the dynamic is formed, especially at an early age, the friendship will last, replacing instinct with learned behavior.

So viral videos of interspecies-relationships are more than just cute; they show another facet of science and our capacity to set aside our differences. These accounts are met with some skepticism because many happen in an environment controlled by humans. As we have the capacity to foster such meaningful relationships among animals, we possess this same potential for humanity. It is time to embrace healthy relationships. If a snake can make peace with its prey, surely we, too, can make peace with each other.



photo credit: google

Archi-Speak

Can you find all these veterinary terms?

Anatomy Enzymatic Labyrinth
Pedigree Warren

H	F	F	I	E	O	T	B	D	W	G	D	I	O	K
F	F	E	U	S	R	C	U	D	K	Z	X	L	T	L
E	N	Z	Y	M	A	T	I	C	K	F	O	Y	A	M
L	A	B	Y	R	I	N	T	H	X	W	V	C	X	Z
G	O	T	I	W	X	F	Y	X	S	D	C	H	X	U
B	V	F	W	U	B	G	C	Y	P	K	C	G	W	Y
K	A	N	A	T	O	M	Y	F	D	W	Y	T	D	O
B	X	U	R	D	Z	V	Q	N	P	K	U	D	N	J
W	C	X	R	E	O	B	U	D	E	X	P	X	N	D
N	C	P	E	F	P	T	C	B	D	C	A	U	N	G
I	T	K	N	Q	I	C	G	R	I	T	P	F	O	Z
P	W	O	O	J	O	P	D	H	G	Z	K	A	M	F
Y	J	Q	Z	V	Z	F	J	K	R	S	F	U	X	W
Y	F	Z	V	F	G	C	D	P	E	F	L	X	X	U
Z	D	R	G	V	J	H	T	C	E	R	C	T	Z	A

Ask M

In the James Bond books and movies the character "M" heads the Secret British Intelligence Service known as MI 6, of which James Bond is Agent 007. When contemplating adding on to your home or building, renovating or building a new home or building you should have someone like "M" on your side. Each month the "Ask M" column will answer a reader's question to place more information at your finger tips. **This month's question is...**

My son is thinking of becoming an architect. How much schooling is involved.

Tonia J.

Tonia,

The best type of school to go to is one that is an accredited five (5) year program. At the end of the five (5) years he would graduate with a Bachelors of Architecture. After that he would have to work under the supervision of a licensed architect for three (3) years to gain the experience he would need to qualify for the State licensing test.

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About

Marcus Marino, RA, AIA, NCARB
President



photo credit: Jenna Glatzer

Marcus Marino, RA, AIA, NCARB is a leading architect in New York City. He received a Bachelors of Architecture from the prestigious Pratt Institute and a Masters in the Science of Architecture and Urban Design from Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. He received his license to practice architecture in New York State in 1981 and is licensed in a number of other States. Marcus Marino has served on numerous Governmental Panels and serves as an expert consultant to other architectural firms and legal firms. He is the former Vice President of Public Advocacy of the New York State American Institute of Architects.

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info@designMgroup.com

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