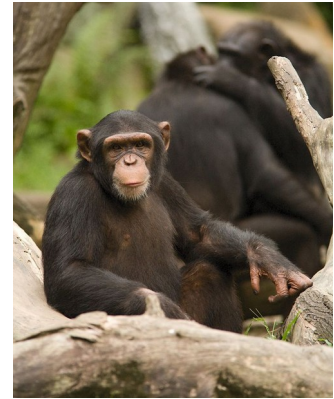


What are the smartest animals in the world?

Synonymous: **intelligent, smart, clever, bright, brilliant, sharp, astute**

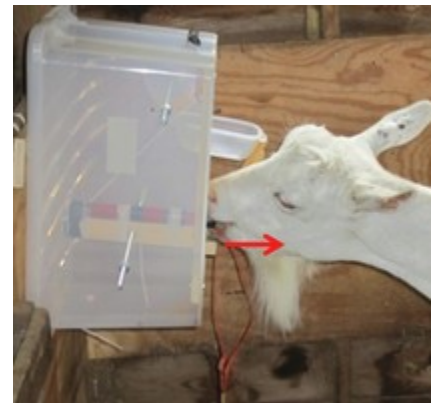
1. Chimpanzees

Chimpanzees are our closest living relatives. 99% of our DNA is identical with theirs. In a study, published in 2007, researchers gave adult chimps, adolescent chimps, and college students the same cognitive test. The test involved remembering where some numbers (from 1 to 9) were located on a touch screen monitor. The numbers were shown in their locations for less than a second. Then they were asked to remember the locations of those numbers. The adult chimps and the humans performed similarly, but the adolescent chimps were far superior. They consistently remembered the majority of the numbers' locations.



2. Goats

Scientists have thought for a long time that goats are much smarter than they appear. So, a group of researchers in Australia decided to test these farm animals. They set up a contraption that held fruit. To access it, the goats had to use their teeth to pull a rope, which activated a lever, which they then had to lift up to access the fruit. 9 out of 12 goats managed to do it successfully after about four tries. When the researchers tested the same goats again after ten months, the majority remembered how to do it on the first time.



3. Elephants

Anyone who has interacted with an elephant knows that these animals are very smart. Researchers have performed many studies on the subject. One study showed that elephants can understand the difference between languages and can determine if a man, woman, or child is speaking. In Africa, only certain tribes hunt elephants. Scientists played recordings of elephant-hunters and non-elephant-hunters. When the elephants heard the recordings of the elephant-hunters, they became fearful and moved away. When they heard non-elephant-hunters, they didn't move or change their mood. Then, researchers played recordings of the language that scared them, but included women, children, and men. The elephants only became fearful when the voice came from men, since they are the hunters.



4. Dolphins

One way that scientists can measure intelligence is something called the “self recognition test”. The idea is to determine if an animal can recognize itself in a mirror. Scientists put a colored mark on the animal’s body, then put it in front of a mirror. If an animal recognizes itself, it will try to remove the mark from its body. Most animals don’t pass this test. When they see the reflection in the mirror, they think that it is another animal, and either run away or try to fight. When researchers put marks on dolphins, they investigated the marks with their noses and tried to remove them. In other words, they knew that the dolphins in the mirror were themselves.



5. Crows

It’s hard to imagine that a crow could be as smart as you, or even smarter. But scientists have done many studies that prove that they might be! In one study, researchers gave crows and humans the same problem. They put a toy, which floats on water, inside a tall, narrow glass of water, fixed to the ground. Children younger than eight years old don’t know how to get the toy. But crows simply drop pebbles into the narrow glass. Eventually the toy rises to the top, and the birds can get it.



6. Octopuses

Octopuses are extremely smart. Most invertebrates don’t have the same level of intelligence as these creatures. In one study, researchers tested to see if they can distinguish between two different people. Two individuals interacted with an octopus, with one acting extremely friendly and the other being cold and reserved. After a short time, when the two people entered the octopus’ living area, the octopus would ignore the unfriendly person and show interest in the friendly person.



Source: <https://www.popsci.com/worlds-smartest-animals>