

Two monkeys were paid unequally

Cucumber or grapes? What happens when two monkeys do the same task but get 'paid' in different ways? Watch this funny video to find out how monkeys react to inequality.

Tasks

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

Vocabulary

1. fairness
2. willing to do something
3. in a row
4. inequity
5. to turn out
6. right
7. to test
8. the Wall Street protest

Definition

- a. correct
- b. open to doing something
- c. treatment of everybody in the same way
- d. to have a particular result; to become obvious
- e. again and again, with no break or exceptions
- f. a situation which is not fair or just (more commonly called 'inequality')
- g. to experiment; to do something to discover if it works correctly
- h. a social movement which happened in New York in which people expressed their anger about economic inequality

Task 1

Are the sentences true or false?

	Answers	
	True	False
1. After the first experiment, the scientists did a similar study with other animals.	True	False
2. The man says that capuchin monkeys are generally not very social.	True	False
3. If both monkeys get cucumber for the task, they both get angry and throw away the cucumber.	True	False
4. The experiment used grapes because capuchin monkeys like them more than cucumber.	True	False
5. The monkeys in the video had previously done this experiment many times.	True	False
6. The monkeys' task in the video is to touch the scientist's hand.	True	False
7. The monkey hits the wall with a rock because she is so angry.	True	False
8. The man says that humans react to inequality in a similar way to monkeys.	True	False

Task 2

Write a word to complete the sentences.

1. If you give both of them cucumber for the task, ... they're perfectly to do this 25 times in a row.
2. If you give them grapes, it's a far better food, then you create between them.
3. Recently we videotaped it with new monkeys who'd never done the task, thinking that maybe they would have a reaction, and that turned out to be right.
4. She a rock now against the wall.
5. So this is the Wall Street protest that you see here.

Discussion

At the end of the video, why does the man compare the monkeys to humans?

Answers

Preparation task

1. c
2. b
3. e
4. f
5. d
6. a
7. g
8. h

Task 1

1. True
2. False
3. False
4. True
5. False
6. False
7. False
8. True

Task 2

1. willing
2. inequity / inequality
3. stronger
4. tests
5. basically