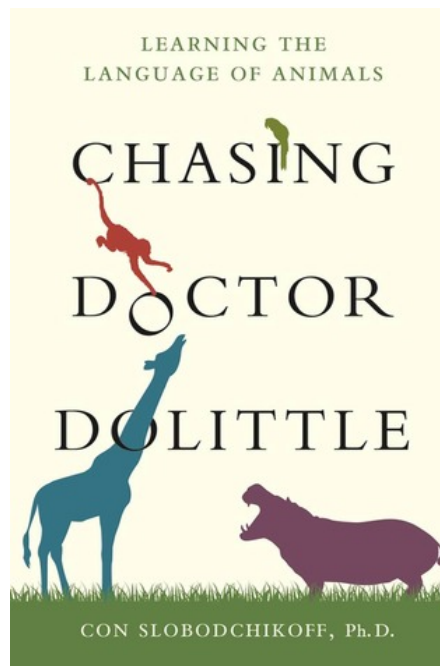




Chasing Doctor Dolittle: Learning the Language of Animals

Con Slobodchikoff

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"Slobodchikoff's ground-breaking research" (Jonathan Balcombe) shows us that animals have much to teach us about language.

Groundbreaking research has been done teaching animals human language, but what about the other way around? Studies have shown that lizards, squid, monkeys, and birds are talking to each other, communicating information about food, predators, squabbles, and petty jealousies. These animal languages are unique and highly adaptive. By exploring them, we come to appreciate the basis of our own languages; understanding or even "speaking" them allows us to get closer to the other species who inhabit this planet with us. The implications of animals having language are enormous. It has been one of the last bastions separating "us" from "them."

Slobodchikoff's studies of the communication system of prairie dogs over twenty-five years have attracted a considerable amount of attention from the media, including a one-hour documentary on his work produced by BBC and Animal Planet.

In *Chasing Doctor Dolittle*, he posits that the difference is one of degree, not the vast intellectual chasm that philosophers have talked about for millennia. Filled with meticulous research, vivid examples and daring conclusions, this book will challenge the reader's assumptions and open up new possibilities of understanding our fellow creatures.

Chasing Doctor Dolittle: Learning the Language of Animals Details

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Author : Con Slobodchikoff

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From Reader Review Chasing Doctor Dolittle: Learning the Language of Animals for online ebook

Xaverius says

Demasiada especulación para mi gusto pero veo difícil leerlo y no acabar convencido de que subestimamos el lenguaje animal. Sobre si realmente vamos a poder traducirlo en el futuro ni repajolera idea.

PD: LAS JIRAFAS SON MUDAS.

Lori Schiele says

The author, who has spent over 20 years studying prairie dogs, uses his own research as well as research of other scientists to explain his belief that animals are capable of language, although in nearly all circles within the scientific community, he stands alone in this belief. He uses numerous anecdotes and varied species, both vertebrate and invertebrate, everything from prairie dogs and chimpanzees to dogs to birds and even ants.

Pam says

A great introduction to language and how animals use language. Written clearly and full of interesting anecdotes.

Pam says

I really liked this book. I've always been frustrated that humans think that we're the only ones with language, and that we think we are somehow unique.

The research presented in it is fascinating, and, of course, incomplete. I think I felt some frustration at it not being a book about proof and definitive conclusions, but it's a great discussion of the possibilities and ways to think about what might be our blind spots.

Tracey says

SDMB LawMonkey recco

Todd says

An amazing book with thought-provoking stories and analysis. Sometimes he goes a bit far in his argument, but he never does so without strong argument and basis. The kind of book you can enjoy even if you disagree

with some of the conclusions.

Barbara Adde says

Really like the premise of this book:

"That there suddenly arose an unbridgeable gap between us and the rest of life just doesn't make sense. After all, every other system in humans has it's roots in other species, and can often be traced up the evolutionary line."

(Page 43)

Darshan Elena says

A fun read that speaks to the intelligence of animals (other than humans) and the various languages that distinct species use to express their emotions and thoughts to one another. I can't wait for translation technologies to offer English to Wombat; just a matter of time, I believe!

Elizabeth says

We all know animals communicate, but do they have language? This author wants to prove to yo that they do. The first chapters about what language is were a little slow but then it got more interesting with examples. It was a fun discussion in book club.

3.5 and recommended for anyone who wants to think more about animals language.
