

Social cognition in domestic dogs



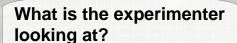
Anna Blinkowski

Final thesis. International Master Programme Applied Biology 2006, Linköpings Universitet. Supervisors: Professor Michael Tomasello and Dr Juliane Kaminski

Dogs show an extraordinary ability to read human communicative signals.

but

How much do dogs actually understand about the communicative situation?





The results indicated that dogs can follow human gaze to a location outside their current visual field...

Which toy has the experimenter not seen?



... but they did not seem to be able to distinguish which toy was new to the experimenter.

What is going on in the minds of our best friends?

Dogs seem to understand what a human is looking at in the given moment but not what she has seen in the immediate past.