



Capuchin Monkeys and Babies



Think about what you saw in the film and answer the questions.

1. How many objects did the babies see at the start?

2. How many objects were behind the screen when the researcher moved it?

3. How did the researchers know that the baby was surprised at this?

4. What did the researcher drop into the box for the capuchin monkey?

5. What did the capuchin monkey find in the box?

6. How did the researchers know that the capuchin monkey was expecting something else?

7. The babies and the capuchin monkeys were expecting something else in the experiments. Do you think that babies and capuchin monkeys think about objects in a similar way? Give a reason for your answer.



Answers:

1. How many objects did the babies see at the start?
The babies saw two different objects.
2. How many objects were behind the screen when the researcher moved it?
There was only one object behind the screen when the researcher removed it.
3. How did the researchers know that the baby was surprised at this?
The baby looked for a longer time at the object, which suggests it was surprised only to see one object there.
4. What did the researchers drop into the box for the capuchin monkey?
The researcher dropped a date into the box.
5. What did the capuchin monkey find in the box?
The capuchin monkey found a grape in the box.
6. How did the researchers know that the capuchin monkey was expecting something else?
The capuchin monkey searched in the box again, after it took out the grape. It seemed to be searching for something other than the grape.
7. The babies and the capuchin monkeys were expecting something else in the experiments. Do you think that babies and capuchin monkeys think about objects in a similar way? Give a reason for your answer.
Babies and capuchin monkeys might well think about objects in a similar way. The experiments showed that they could know that two objects are different, separate things. The babies were surprised when there was only one object behind the screen. The capuchin monkey searched again, as if looking for the date and so it expected a different object to be there.