



Is Urination Contagious Among Our Closest Relatives?

Description

Peeing can be a social activity. Just like smiling or yawning, it may be contagious among primates, including chimpanzees.

A [study](#) of 20 captive chimpanzees ([Pan troglodytes](#)) found that when one chimp pees, others often do the same. This is especially true if the chimp that pees is a group leader.

This research is the first to look at how social interaction relates to peeing. The study suggests that when chimps pee together, it helps them stay connected with each other.

People also often go to the bathroom in groups. We think about when it is okay to pee in public.

According to primatologist Ena Onishi, "There is a saying that if you don't pee with others, you might be a thief or a spy."

At the Kumamoto Sanctuary in Japan, researchers watched the chimps for many hours to find out why they pee at the same time.

They learned that chimps that were closer to each other were more likely to pee together. This shows that peeing can be a social behavior.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Contagious** /kən'teɪ.dʒəs/ (adjective): Capable of being transmitted from one individual to another often used in relation to behavior or emotions.
2. **Research** /'riː.səːrtʃ/ (noun): A detailed and systematic investigation into a specific subject.
3. **Interaction** /,ɪn.tə'ræk.ʃən/ (noun): The act of communicating or engaging with others.
4. **Connected** /kə'nek.tɪd/ (adjective): Being linked or related to one another especially in a social context.
5. **Behavior** /bɪ'heɪ.vjər/ (noun): The way in which one acts or conducts oneself especially towards others.
6. **Sanctuary** /'sæŋk.tʃu.ər.i/ (noun): A place of refuge or safety often used to protect wildlife.

Comprehension Questions



Multiple Choice

1. What was the main finding of the study on chimpanzees mentioned in the text?
Option: Chimpanzees pee more when they are alone.
Option: Peeing is not a social behavior among primates.
Option: Chimpanzees tend to pee together, especially if the chimp that pees is a group leader.
Option: Chimpanzees only pee when they are scared.
2. According to the text, who is Ena Onishi?
Option: A famous scientist studying chimpanzees.
Option: A primatologist mentioned in the text.
Option: The leader of a group of chimpanzees.
Option: A fictional character
3. What did researchers observe at the Kumamoto Sanctuary in Japan regarding the peeing behavior of chimps?
Option: Chimps never peed at the same time.
Option: Closer chimps were less likely to pee together.
Option: Chimps with higher social status separated from others when peeing.
Option: Chimps that were closer to each other were more likely to pee together.
4. What does the text suggest about peeing behavior in humans?
Option: Humans never pee in groups.
Option: Peeing in public is always inappropriate.
Option: People tend to go to the bathroom in groups.
Option: Peeing has no social significance.
5. What was the purpose of the research at the Kumamoto Sanctuary in Japan?
Option: To teach chimps how to pee together.
Option: To observe why chimps pee at different times.
Option: To investigate why chimps pee at the same time.
Option: To study the sleeping habits of chimps.
6. What is the social significance of peeing together according to the study mentioned in the text?
Option: It is a sign of aggression.
Option: It helps chimps establish dominance.
Option: It helps chimps stay connected with each other.
Option: It indicates fear.



True-False

- 7. Peeing can be a social activity among primates, including chimpanzees.
- 8. The study of captive chimpanzees mentioned in the text was not the first of its kind.
- 9. Ena Onishi is a fictional character mentioned in the text.
- 10. According to the study, chimps that pee together are more likely to have conflicts.
- 11. Researchers at the Kumamoto Sanctuary in Japan observed that peeing behavior was not influenced by social proximity among chimps.
- 12. Peers of a group leader chimp are less likely to pee when the leader does so.

Gap-Fill

- 13. The _____ of 20 captive chimpanzees found that when one chimp pees, others often do the same.
- 14. According to primatologist Ena Onishi, there is a saying that if you don't pee with others, you might be a _____ or a spy.
- 15. Researchers watched the chimps at the Kumamoto Sanctuary in Japan for many hours to find out why they pee at the same _____.
- 16. Chimps that were closer to each other were more likely to pee _____.
- 17. The study mentioned in the text is the first to look at how social interaction relates to _____.
- 18. Peeing together helps chimps stay connected with each _____ according to the study.



Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Chimpanzees tend to pee together, especially if the chimp that pees is a group leader.
2. A primatologist mentioned in the text. 3. Chimps that were closer to each other were more likely to pee together.
4. People tend to go to the bathroom in groups. 5. To investigate why chimps pee at the same time. 6. It helps chimps stay connected with each other.

True-False: 7. True 8. False 9. False 10. False 11. False 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. study 14. thief 15. time 16. together 17. peeing 18. other

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What celestial object is often a subject of scientific research due to its potential impact on Earth?

- Option: Meteor
- Option: Comet
- Option: Asteroid
- Option: Galaxy

2. Which substance can impair cognitive functions when consumed excessively?

- Option: Water
- Option: Tea
- Option: Coffee
- Option: Alcohol

3. What is an unexpected event that may cause harm or disruption?

- Option: Routine
- Option: Incident
- Option: Success
- Option: Joy

4. Which type of live bacteria are considered beneficial for gut health?

- Option: Virus
- Option: Parasites
- Option: Fungi
- Option: Probiotics

5. What term is used to describe individuals who did not succumb to a dangerous situation?

- Option: Lost
- Option: Survived



Option: Trapped
Option: Drowned

6. Which emotion is characterized by a high level of enthusiasm and anticipation?

Option: Calm
Option: Bored
Option: Excited
Option: Tired

7. What microorganisms can be both harmful and beneficial to human health?

Option: Fungi
Option: Bacteria
Option: Parasites
Option: Virus

8. What term relates to mental processes including perception memory and problem-solving?

Option: Physical
Option: Emotional
Option: Cognitive
Option: Social

9. What systematic investigation aims to discover and interpret facts?

Option: Guesswork
Option: Research
Option: Rumors
Option: Hearsay

10. What is a place of refuge or safety where people animals or plants are protected?

Option: Desert
Option: Sanctuary
Option: Jungle
Option: Cave

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. Asteroids can have a significant _____ on Earth if they collide with the planet.

12. Scientists have raised _____ about the potential dangers of certain behaviors.

13. The helicopter crash resulted in a _____ loss of lives.



14. The internet has revolutionized how people are _____ globally.
15. Scientists are conducting groundbreaking _____ on cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease.
16. The authorities _____ the path of the asteroid to avoid a collision with Earth.
17. Laughter is _____ and can spread positivity among people.
18. Eating a balanced diet ensures that your body receives essential _____ for good health.
19. Behavioral changes can be observed when people are under the influence of _____.
20. The team of scientists is researching the effects of gut _____ on cognitive function.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The hikers packed essential gear and food for their trip into the wilderness.
22. The farmers were thankful for the abundant precipitation that nourished their crops.
23. The psychologist studied the various reactions and actions exhibited by the subjects.
24. The complex instructions left the students feeling bewildered and puzzled.
25. The rescue team arrived swiftly at the scene of the accident in the mountainous terrain.
26. The travelers boarded the train for a scenic journey through the countryside.
27. The unexpected occurrence led to chaos and confusion in the bustling city center.
28. The workshop encouraged active participation and engagement among the attendees.
29. Globalization has made the world more interlinked and united in various aspects.
30. The children were thrilled and eager about the upcoming holiday festivities.



Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Asteroid 2. Alcohol 3. Incident 4. Probiotics 5. Survived 6. Excited 7. Bacteria 8. Cognitive 9. Research 10. Sanctuary

Gap-Fill: 11. impact 12. concerns 13. tragic 14. connected 15. research 16. diverted 17. contagious 18. nutrients 19. alcohol 20. research

Matching sentence: 1. Supplies 2. Rainfall 3. Behaviours 4. Confused 5. Helicopter 6. Passengers 7. Incident 8. Interaction 9. Connected 10. Excited

CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL1

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Author

aimeeyoung99

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