Bernard Rensch Encyclopedia Article

Bernard Rensch

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Contents

Bernard Rensch Encyclopedia Article.....1

Contents.....2

Bernard Rensch.....3

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German biologist whose work on aspects of animal intelligence was of great importance. Rensch was able to show that brain size confers some degree of evolutionary advantage if all other factors are equal. He then suggested this finding to be a reason why species tend to increase in size over time, although not all were convinced. Rensch's work with elephants, showing them to have phenomenal memories, was of particular public interest.