

LEARNING

Non-associative learning

Learning: A change in behaviour either a new response or suppression of existing response. This is relatively long-lasting.

Different types of learning:

- Habituation (single stimulus learning) – Are you aware of your underwear)
- Classical Conditioning – why do we salivate at the thought of drinking lemon juice?
- Operant Conditioning – why do dogs put on soulful expressions when watching food?

Learning is the ability to:

- Recognise which stimuli should be attended to and which to ignore
- Recognise relationships between environmental events
- Recognise the consequences of one's actions
- Change – adapt to changes In environment – adaption if flexible
- necessary for survival
- enduring – can be altered with future learning
- the key to learning is association

Study – Social Learning

Gagliano et al - Plants can learn

Plant cognitive ecologists demonstrated that plants have an innate tendency to grow towards light.

Findings: sensation and habituation. The plants learnt to grow towards a light and away from a fan.

Associative learning:

- Learning what events signal (CLASSICAL CONDITIONING). *Learning when something is about to happen.*
- Learning about consequences of behaviour (OPERANT CONDITIONING).
- Learning from others (SOCIAL LEARNING).

Non-associative learning

Learning that results from the impact of one particular stimulus.

Sensitisation and habitation Is orienting response.

Habituation:

- Learning to ignore a single stimulus.
- Progressive decrease in strength of a response that may occur with repeated presentations of eliciting stimulus.
- Response wanes with repeated exposure - we learn to ignore stimuli.