

### Gorillas

- 1 CAJOLING bored friends to keep playing with you is not limited to humans. A gorilla that wants to continue a game will also try to do this, and will even deliberately lose if necessary. This hints that gorillas may have "theory of mind" — the capacity to attribute mental states to others.



- 2 Richard Byrne and Joanne Tanner of St Andrews University in the UK videoed gorillas at San Francisco Zoo. As well as engaging with a toy and another gorilla, the animals seemed aware of their playmate's interaction with the toy. "The gorillas could encourage their playmates when they were losing interest, or self-handicap if there was a danger of winning the game," says Byrne.
- 3 This is the first time animals have been observed following a playmate's interaction with a third object — a skill picked up by humans at 9 months old. With dogs, cats, lions and bears "the animal wants to win the game, rather than keep it going", Byrne says. "This is different to throwing a stick for your pet dog."
- 4 Because the gorillas seem to be taking account of the thoughts of others, they are showing some theory of mind competence, says Byrne, although they do not pass a standard theory-of-mind test called the false belief test, which looks at the ability to infer another's perspective. Nevertheless, Byrne says that taking another individual's thoughts into account might not be unique to humans.

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## Tekst 4 Gorillas

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- 2p 8 Geef van elk van de onderstaande beweringen aan of deze wel of niet overeenkomt met de inhoud van de tekst.
- 1 Gorillas feign incompetence to manipulate their playmates.
  - 2 Gorillas show a tendency to display dominant behaviour towards their playmates.
  - 3 Byrne cannot conclusively prove that gorillas have theory of mind competence.
- Noteer het nummer van elke bewering, gevolgd door “wel” of “niet”.

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### Bronvermelding

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