

《为何狗狗与人类如此友好呢？》

导读:狗狗和人类一直都是好朋友，为什么呢？狗和狼之间有什么关系呢？



Being friendly is in dogs' nature and could be key to how they came to share our lives, say US scientists.

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Dogs evolved from wolves tens of thousands of years ago.

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During this time, certain genes that make dogs particularly gregarious have been selected for, according to research.

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This may give dogs their distinctive personalities, including a craving for human company.

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"Our finding of genetic variation in both dogs and wolves provides a possible insight into animal personality, and may even suggest similar genes may have roles in other domestic species (maybe cats even)," said Dr Bridgett vonHoldt of Princeton University.

??????Bridgett vonHoldt??:"??(????)?????"

The researchers studied the behaviour of domestic dogs, and grey wolves living in captivity. They carried out a number of tests of the animals' skills at problem-solving and sociability.

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These showed that wolves were as good as dogs at solving problems, such as retrieving pieces of sausage from a plastic lunchbox.

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Dogs, however, were much more friendly. They spent more time greeting human strangers and gazing at them, while wolves were somewhat aloof.

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DNA tests found a link between certain genetic changes and behaviours such as attentiveness to strangers or picking up on social cues.

DNA??

Dr Elaine Ostrander of the National Institutes of Health, who was a co-researcher on the study, said the information would be useful in studying human disease.

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Dogs were domesticated from wolves between 20,000 and 40,000 years ago.

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This process began when wolves that were tolerant of humans sneaked into hunter gatherer camps to feed on food scraps.

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Over the course of history, wolves were eventually tamed and became the dogs we know today, which come in all shapes and sizes.

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"This could easily play into the story then of how these wolves leave descendants that are also 'friendlier' than others, setting the path for domestication," said Dr vonHoldt.

vonHoldt???:"??"

