NATURE

Darwin barking up the right tree

adapted from an article by Martha Linden

Dogs get jealous, scientists have proved. Experiments revealed dogs exhibited jealous behaviour such as snapping and pushing when their owner displayed affection for a stuffed dog.

The University of California study monitored the reaction of 36 dogs in their own homes when their owners ignored them in favour of the stuffed dog or a bucket with a Halloween design. Dogs were twice as likely to push their owner while they petted the false dog as when they were displaying the same behaviour towards the bucket.

The findings confirm long-held suspicions of owners and <u>2</u> an observation by Charles Darwin.

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