



# Nature Stories from Darwin

*Charles Darwin*

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## **Nature Stories from Darwin** Charles Darwin

Charles Darwin (1809–1882), English naturalist and writer, best known as the originator of the theory of biological evolution by natural selection. "Nature Stories from Darwin" is a 1912 compilation of true stories of animal behavior taken from among all of Darwin's various publications. In describing an observation of monkey behavior Darwin writes: "A monkey was given lumps of sugar done up in paper. He lost no time in unwrapping the package and appropriating the contents. A practical joke was played on this monkey. A live wasp was put inside the paper with the sugar. In his haste to get at the contents the monkey was stung. After that experience Mr. Monkey grew cautious, and placed each wrapped package to his ear to detect the presence of any undesirable insect inside. In this way he avoided being the victim of the same joke twice." A nature story from Darwin has behind it the guarantee of absolute reliability. The stories which he used to illustrate his investigations, contain none of the element of unwarranted exaggeration employed by the "nature fakirs."

**CONTENTS: BIOGRAPHICAL INTRODUCTION SAMPLES OF MONKEY WISDOM SOME MEMORY TESTS A CRAB THAT EATS COCOANUTS A CASE OF CAUSE AND EFFECT SLAVE-HOLDING ANTS ANTS THAT KEEP A DAIRY CASES OF BIRD VANITY A HEROIC BABOON BIRD BOWER BUILDERS AN AQUATIC BALLOON THE CONQUEST OF THE CORAL THE PORCUPINES' WARNING QUILLS THE DOG WITH THE HOTHOUSE FACE A MATTER OF MEMORY. DO ANIMALS DREAM? THE POT WOULD NOT COOK. A SEA-ISLAND LIZARD POLLY THE FOX-TERRIER. THE TRICKY CUCKOO. BIRD PROUD OF HIS BEAUTY. WOOING OF THE KATY-DID. JEALOUS BIRD SINGERS. THE EAGLE AND THE MONKEY. THE SINGER AND HIS SONG. A SEAL WITH A HOOD. MONKEYS AND DRINK. A CASE OF RACE PREJUDICE. THE MAGPIE MARRIAGE. INTEREST AND KINDNESS OF BIRDS. BIRDS ATTRACTED TO THE BEAUTIFUL. ANIMALS AS LEARNERS. BIRDS WITH SPRING SUITS. CASES OF SURPRISE AND CURIOSITY. A SMART SEA GULL. A MONKEY SAVED HIS FRIEND. SLEEPING PLANTS THE VALUE OF ATTENTION MOTHERLY MONKEYS ARTISTIC BEES**

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