

Zsófia Virányi



Zsófia Virányi studied biology at the Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest where she also gained her PhD on animal behaviour in 2004. She habilitated in 2021 on animal behaviour, cognition and human-animal interactions at the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna. Currently, she is a senior researcher at Comparative Cognition unit of the Messerli Research Institute. As a founder of the Clever Dog Lab and the Wolf Science Center, Zsófia has conducted most of her research on dogs and wolves, in order to investigate how, during the course of domestication, dogs' reasoning and social learning abilities, communication and cooperation have adapted to living with humans. Deeply interested in how human and non-human animals differ and compare to each other in their taking on and processing information, she has been comparing canine cognition to children, primates and pigs.