# Re: the liver and the brain

***Source:*** http://sci.tech−archive.net/Archive/sci.cognitive/2004−09/0188.html

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***From:*** Lester Zick (*lesterDELzick_at_worldnet.att.net*)
***Date:*** 09/05/04

Date: Sun, 05 Sep 2004 15:04:19 GMT

On Sat, 04 Sep 2004 15:39:57 −0400, r norman <rsn_@_comcast.net> in comp.ai.philosophy wrote:

*>On Sat, 04 Sep 2004 18:20:33 GMT, lesterDELzick@worldnet.att.net*
*>(Lester Zick) wrote:*
*>*
*>>On 4 Sep 2004 09:35:30 −0700, feedbackdroids@yahoo.com (dan michaels)*
*>>in comp.ai.philosophy wrote:*
*>*
*><snip>*
*>*
*>>> ... my question regards the level of development of*
*>>>perceptual systems at the time of birth in precocial ungulates ...*
*>>>*
*>*
*>>>It's a fairly interesting problem in its own right, since a baby zebra*
*>>>has to be ready to flee from a lion shortly after birth, if it ever*
*>>>wants to get to be an adult zebra. To flee from a lion, it might help*
*>>>to be able to distinquish one from a parent zebra, so upon seeing its*
*>>>own parent, it doesn't go running off into the jaws of the nearest*
*>>>lion. I guess it's conceivable the adult zebra would be able to*
*>>>"teach" its baby what a lion is in the first hour or so, or that the*
*>>>baby learns on its own the first time a lion comes to eat it. Operant*
*>>>conditioning rules, so long as the organism makes it through the first*
*>>>day against something 10X its size and power, not to mention the big*
*>>>teeth.*
*>>*
*>>The baby zebra wouldn't have to learn to discriminate lions. It would*
*>>just have to learn to stay with its mother, a much easier task for*
*>>which it is presumably born pretty much ready.*
*>>*
*>>Regards − Lester*
*>*
*>You are right in questioning the specific behavioral capabilities*
*>needed for a newborn to survive. Still, putting aside the particular*
*>focus on ungulates and on recognitio*