Research Activity Report Supported by "Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science"

(Please be sure to submit this report after the trip that supported by PWS.)

Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/M1
Name	Yuri KAWAGUCHI

1. Country/location of visit

PRI, Japan

2. Research project

Comparative Cognition Course

3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2016Apr.1- Sep.16

4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Language and Intelligence Course

5. Progress and results of your research/activity (You can attach extra pages if needed)

I majored comparative cognition. We are asking what is human through studying about cognition of non-human animal. I have been attending the experiment at lab 4 every day for half month. We are doing experiment with horses as well as chimpanzees. I'm reporting here about study of these two species.

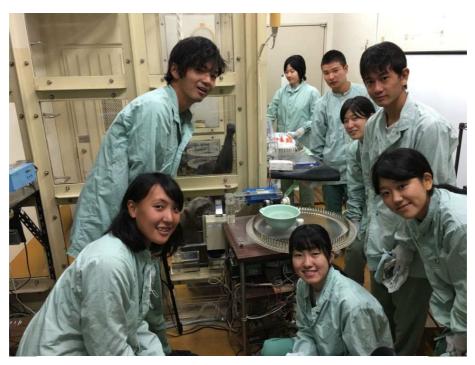
Chimpanzees experiment

Every day we are starting from preparing apples for rewards and running the program. After everything is ready, we call chimpanzees. I've came to the lab several times during undergraduate but I was not allowed to enter the so-called "chimpanzee area" at that time. We cannot force them to come to the lab so we continue calling the name of the subject patiently. If they don't come we cannot carry out experiment so this is important. Even when they come, we still have to pay attention to the chimps because some individual are very easily to lose their concentration. After the experiment, we bring them to home cage and clean up the room. Usually we repeat this procedure four times in a day. In experimental studies, important things are what kind of question we come up with, what kind of procedure we use or what are the results. However, we cannot study just by thinking on the desk. I noticed not only considering the experiment itself, but also acquiring the practical skills in order to conduct the experiment with chimps is quite important.

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Ai doing her task with touch panel



Comparative cognition course (photo by Prof. Tomonaga)

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Horse experiment

We are doing experiment with horses as well as chimpanzees in horseman Kagamigahara. Little is known about cognition of horses though human and horses have been together since ancient time. How horses, which have about 350-degree view, perceive the world? What they feel actually thought it is often said that they are very delicate animals? The experimental procedures which we use are generalized so we can adapt almost the same procedure to horse and chimpanzees. Actually we are using the same program for number discriminating task with chimpanzees and horses. In the future, more things about horse cognition will be revealed.



Horse riding (Photo by Prof. Tomonaga)

6.Others

I would like to thank professors and staff of language and intelligence section and PWS program.