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Dear Editor,

Please consider our manuscript entitled “*Cognitive processes are robust to early environmental conditions in two lizard species*” for publication in **Behavioral Ecology**.

Learning – defined as the ability to acquire and consolidate new information – is crucial for animals adapting to new situations. However, environmental conditions during early life can significantly affect brain development and learning abilities. While temperature and stress hormones are recognized as factors influencing learning, the effects of their interaction is not well understood. Additionally, it remains uncertain whether their effects may result from alterations in information consolidation or from perceptual biases that may influence learning strategies or decision-making. Through a multi-species experimental approach that manipulates both early temperature and stress hormones, we demonstrate that associative learning and decision-making are robust across early developmental environments in both lizard species, and that color have a profound effect on lizards’ decision-making.

Our novel findings have significant implications for the field of cognitive ecology and are likely to inspire new research on how developmental environments influence learning and cognition, which is vital for understanding animal responses to environmental changes. We believe this makes our work particularly suitable for a general journal like Behavioral Ecology, and we hope you share this perspective.

We confirm that this manuscript has not been published elsewhere and is not currently under consideration for publication in any other journal. All authors have approved the manuscript for submission and declare no conflicts of interest.

Thank you for considering our manuscript for publication. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Pablo Recio Santiago

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Australian National University