Pigeons can do it!(?)



Orthographic processing in pigeons (Columba livia)

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Learning to read involves the acquisition of letter-sound relationships (i.e., decoding skills) and the ability to visually recognize words (i.e., orthographic knowledge). Although decoding skills are clearly human-unique, given they are seated in language, recent research and theory suggest that orthographic processing

An open question is whether animals with brain architectures and visual systems dissimilar to primates also display this sensitivity to the statistical properties of words. Indeed, the recycling hypothesis has been built with our brain in mind and, more specifically, the hierarchical organization of the ventral visual system.



