

‘Puppy dog eyes’ evolved so dogs could communicate with us

<p>Notes &amp; Cues:</p>	<p>Article:</p> <p>There’s a reason we call them “puppy dog eyes” — those soulful, innocent expressions can sway even the most hardened human.</p> <p>That’s no accident, a new study says. Centuries of domestication have radically reshaped a dog’s eyebrow anatomy, making their faces — and emotions — easily readable to people.</p> <p>When meeting a person’s gaze, dogs often raise their inner eyebrow muscle to make their eyes look larger and more appealing.</p> <p>“There’s no evidence that dogs move this [eyebrow] muscle intentionally, but it creates an exaggerated movement that for us means ‘dog, ’” says study leader Juliane Kaminski, a psychologist at the University of Portsmouth in the U.K.</p> <p>Eyeblink movement plays a major role in human communication, Kaminiski says: “I’m doing it now when I’m speaking to you, even though I know you can’t see me.”</p> <p>The study is the latest example of how 20, 000 years of cohabitation has made our pets finely tuned interpreters of human emotion — possibly more so than any other species.</p>
<p>Summary:</p>	