

DySoC/NIMBioS Webinar Series on Cultural Evolution
Questions from ***The impact of a tradition on the life of capuchin monkeys***
with Patricia Izar, November 24, 2020

1. Have you considered putting an accelerometer in an artificial stone to measure forces involved in food opening?
2. Professor Izar, thank you for your talk. I know how hard it was to gather all those amazing research findings. Thank you for your enthusiasm. So, I'd like to ask you about the signs of tool use in archaeological sites. How can you tell the difference between human and monkey tool use signs in archaeological sites?
3. How about the personalities of the capuchin monkeys? Have you already conducted any study related to their personality and tool use style? If not, can you tell about the relevance of a study of personality and tool use in capuchins?
4. Wonderful talk! Do you think that female hierarchy is related with their performance in nut cracking?
5. Do the monkeys use the tools only for feeding, or do they use tools for other purposes, like a war between groups? Or maybe mating?
6. Is there any correlation between group size and the total number of traditions that groups have?
7. Regarding ontogeny studies. Can you tell about the infants, perhaps the age when capuchin monkeys begin to use tools to crack nuts? Also, can you tell how the nut-cracking behavior began in those populations you study?
8. Can you tell a little about the risks the capuchins face during the pandemic? Also, how do you plan to do the fieldwork with the capuchins in despite of the pandemic?
9. How big do you think groups have to be for such traditions to be maintained?
10. What is the relationship of the traditional local community with the capuchin monkeys?
11. Congratulations on this brilliant and so informative talk! Do you think "nut cracking" generates a positive emotional state in the monkeys? Is there any evidence of affective processing alongside with the practice of this activity?
12. I'm interested to hear whether the provisioning with water and coconuts has been observed to have any impacts on the communities. Relatedly, interested in knowing how the capuchins and local human communities interact. Is there provisioning? And have the agricultural incursions led to any negative interactions between the capuchins and humans. Thanks so much for your talk and research!
13. You really convinced me about the role of nut cracking tradition on the development and social relations of the group, but I would like to see some more evidence of its effects on their evolution. Could you talk a little more about this?