

# Is There A Relationship Between "Anticipations" and "Instinct"?

**Post by "Don" of April 24, 2021 at 9:57 AM**

To go back to your original question:

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I don't think so. Instinct has to do with behavior. The Anticipations have to do with perception.

To use your favorite castorine example, beavers build dams over flowing water it appears as a result of stimuli compelling that behavior. There appears to be some sort of necessity involved. There is a visible measurable behavioral result.

From my perspective, Anticipations (I'm going to say similar to "mental concepts" in the strict scientific sense of Barrett's and her peers' research) are used by the mind to assess, identify, and categorize sensory stimuli. Previous sensations build, fine-tune, and strengthen "Anticipations" but they don't lead to a compulsive behavior.

Or maybe I'm conflating instinct and instinctual behavior. Still thinking...