

Stories about deceit, deception and swindle

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Deception involves the manipulation of another individual to the benefit of the deceiver. The victim of deception can be of the same or a completely unrelated species, but will carry a cost from responding to the manipulation. Sometimes, especially in cases of prey deception, the cost is fatal. The complexity of the signals and behavioural manipulation involved in deception is intriguing and often quite intimate. In this talk I will present several superb examples of deception involving spiders and insects (and the occasional orchid). My talk is firmly rooted in natural history and extends into explanations of continental wide patterns of deception.

