

acteristic of her species cannot be stated with any assurance.

As I have remarked in another work, "We are apt to overestimate the importance of the ability to reason as if it were the chief thing of value in intelligent behavior. There are other mental traits which may enable an animal to get what it wants better than an increment of reasoning power. General activity, power of attention, interest, quickness of forming associations, delicacy of discrimination, duration of memory, and the ability to form complex associations are all of the utmost importance in many situations of an animal's life. . . . Give a fox greater power of inferential thinking, but decrease his alertness, curiosity, suspiciousness, and quickness of perception, and he might fall a victim to the hunter while his mind was employed on some other subject." Possibly more intelligence of the human sort would have been a positive drawback under the conditions of Lizzie's natural environment.