# Article information:

Monogamous Prairie Voles Reveal the Neurobiology of Love - Scientific American
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/monogamous-prairie-voles-reveal-the-neurobiology-of-love/>

# Article summary:

1. The prairie vole is a small Midwestern rodent known for its monogamous behavior, which is rare among mammals.

2. Researchers are using the prairie vole to understand how relationships have a profound impact on health and how bonds are formed.

3. Scientists have studied the hormones oxytocin and vasopressin, which are essential to forming bonds in prairie voles, as well as the gene activity that shapes bonding behaviors.

# Article rating:

Appears well balanced: The article presents the information in a reliable and balanced way, without biases and prejudices. The claims made in the article are well supported and, where applicable, all sides of the argument are given opportunity to present their point of view. The article appears trustworthy and reliable.

# Article analysis:

The article “Monogamous Prairie Voles Reveal the Neurobiology of Love” by Scientific American is an informative piece about the research being done on prairie voles and their unique monogamous behavior. The article provides a comprehensive overview of the research that has been conducted on these rodents, including their social behaviors, hormones involved in bonding, and gene activity that shapes their behavior. The article also discusses how this research can be applied to humans and sheds light on why certain species form pair-bonds while others do not.

The article is generally reliable and trustworthy due to its use of scientific evidence from studies conducted by researchers such as Lowell Getz and Devra Kleiman. It also cites specific examples of research findings such as the partner preference test developed by Sue Carter’s lab and Tom Insel’s discovery of hormone receptors in different brain regions for promiscuous versus monogamous voles. Furthermore, it provides an explanation of how hormones bring about changes in cells through binding to receptor proteins.

The only potential bias in this article could be its focus on the positive aspects of prairie vole research without mentioning any potential risks or drawbacks associated with it. Additionally, there could be more discussion about other species that exhibit similar behaviors or other factors that may influence pair-bonding in animals besides hormones or gene activity. However, overall this article provides a thorough overview of the research being done on prairie voles and their unique social behavior, making it a reliable source of information for readers interested in learning more about these fascinating creatures.

# Topics for further research:

* Prairie vole mating behavior
* Social behavior in animals
* Hormones and pair-bonding
* Receptor proteins and hormones
* Effects of gene activity on behavior
* Other species exhibiting monogamous behavior

# Report location:

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