

In primates, early life interactions with the mother influence behaviour later in life. However, we still do not know much about the connections between the personality of the mother and maternal care, and the personality of her young, especially in the wild. In this study we will investigate these interesting questions by observing female bonnet macaques (*Macaca radiata*) and their infants during the first year of the infant's life. So far, bonnet macaques have been studied well in captivity but data from the wild is limited. During three years, we will observe all females and infants from two groups in Thenmala, southern India, to explore the sources of variation in maternal care in this species and to test to what degree the personality of the mother influences infant personality. Studying free-living bonnet macaques will give us a more detailed picture of individual development than studies in captivity. Moreover, data from our primate cousins are very important in creating models of human parenting that show the whole range of parental response, individual differences and parenting style, and different ways of responding to various situations. Our results will contribute to discussions on the impact of maternal behavior vs. outside environment on personality development of infants early in their lives. We can learn a lot from primates, not only about their personalities, but about personality itself and how it evolved in different environments.