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Abstracts

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**LACK OF DISCRIMINATION OF CONSPECIFIC VOCALIZATIONS BY
BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEES: TESTS ON HAND-RAISED JUVENILES**

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Abstract. We played conspecific and heterospecific vocalizations to juvenile, hand-raised Black-capped Chickadees (*Poecile atricapilla*) in the laboratory and monitored their behavior in tests of preferential response to conspecific vocalizations. The subjects did not respond differently to conspecific and heterospecific vocal stimuli in three playback tests. We conclude that there was no evidence of selective attention to conspecific vocalizations during early life in these individuals. We speculate that this may explain the general lack of success in obtaining evidence for imitation learning by laboratory-tutored individuals in this species.

Key words: behavior, Black-capped Chickadee, juvenile vocal recognition, playback, song learning.