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Monday 23rd March 2009

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A bug's life for model citizens

Mar 23 2009

Bees and ants have long been recognised as tireless workers, but new research suggests they can also behave like selfless model citizens.

A study has found that some bees and ants do operate in the best interests of the group to which they belong - creating a "superorganism" - and can even sacrifice their lives for the greater good of their community.

But scientists at the Universities of Edinburgh and Oxford found the same could not be said for other animal groupings, such as herds of bison or shoals of fish.

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