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ON THE COVER

Naked mole-rats (Heterocephalus glaber) display rich vocal repertoires. Analysis of their greeting call, the soft chirp, reveals that this sound can be used to communicate social membership. Individuals from different colonies use distinctive dialects that are learned early in life. Dialect usage in naked mole-rats is similar to that in humans, a finding that may shed light on mechanisms of social communication. See pages 461 and 503.

Photo: Felix Petermann, Max-Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine (MDC)

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