

Using Sources in Writing

The following is an abstract downloaded from PsycInfo. Read the abstract and then read the paraphrases and summaries below. Which of the choices represents plagiarism and which is a proper use of the original source? How do you know?

Western scrub-jays (*Aphelocoma californica*) use cognitive strategies to protect their caches from thieving conspecifics. (Emery, Dally, and Clayton, 2004)

Food caching birds hide food and recover the caches when supplies are less abundant. There is, however, a risk to this strategy because the caches are susceptible to pilfering by others. Corvids use a number of different strategies to reduce possible cache theft. Scrub-jays with previous experience of pilfering other's caches cached worms in two visuospatially distinct caching trays either in private or in the presence of a conspecific. When these storers had cached in private, they subsequently observed both trays out of reach of a conspecific. When these storers had cached in the presence of a conspecific, they subsequently watched the observer pilfering from one of the trays while the other tray was placed in full view, but out of reach. The storers were then allowed to recover the remaining caches 3 h later. Jays cached more worms when they were observed during caching. At the time of recovery, they re-cached more than if they had cached in private, selectively re-caching outside of the trays in sites unbeknown to potential thieves. These results suggest that scrubjays use flexible, cognitive caching and recovery strategies to aid in reducing potential future pilfering of caches by conspecifics. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2006 APA, all rights reserved)

A paraphrase consists of entirely your own words and phrases, and is about the same length as the source's information.

Paraphrase of the First Three Sentences:

- a) Scatter-caching birds store food and retrieve it later during periods of scarcity. Caching is risky, however, because undefended caches are vulnerable to robbery by others. Corvids employ several strategies to minimize robbery by others.
- b) Caching allows animals to maintain energy supplies during periods of food scarcity. However, an important risk associated with caching is the potential of pilfering by conspecifics. Caching corvids can minimize robbery through the use of several behavioral and cognitive strategies.

A Summary consists of entirely your own words and phrases, but condenses the original source's information into fewer words.

Summary of the Entire Abstract:

- a) Emery, et al. (2004) observed wester scrub jays cache waxworms in private or while they were being observed by a conspecific. Birds in the latter condition who then observed their caches being pilfered by a conspecific retrieved more of their original cached during subsequent recovery sessions, and re-cached their food in locations that had previously been out of view of the pilfering conspecific.
- b) Emery, et al. (2004) allowed birds to cache worms in visuospatially different caching areas when they were either alone or when another jay was present. Later, birds were allowed to recover their caches, and the experimenters recorded how many cache they found, what they did with their caches, and when they re-cached their food. Results show that birds who had been observed during caching sessions re-cached more often during recover sessions. Birds also re-cache food in placed that the previously pilferer was unaware of. The authors also showed that birds who had previously experienced pilfering were more likely to eat, instead of just check, the contents of their caches.