

# Brain Plasticity and Behavior

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the neural circuitry that produces the behavior. Conversely, if neural networks are changed by experience, there must be some corresponding change in the functions mediated by those networks. For the investigator interested in under-

scaffolding synapses, much as tree branches provide a location for leaves to

differences in the effects of experience on synaptic organization, but to our sur-

increase sensitizes, and the animal may remain sensitized for weeks, months, or even years, even if drug treatment is discontinued.

Changes in behavior that occur as a consequence of past experience, and can persist for months or years, like memories, are thought to be due to changes

mation, can reverse age-related synaptic loss and thus ought to be considered as useful treatments for age-related cognitive loss.

Although much is now known about brain plasticity and behavior, many theoretical issues remain. Knowing that a wide variety of experiences and agents

