

## Word of the Week:

## **Intelligence**

the ability to learn, reason, and understand. Those math problems are easy for him because of his high intelligence.

Try it in a sentence. Use it when explaining something.



## This week's 'Talk at Home' topics

Dogs make perfect pets because they are soft, fun to play with and provide brilliant companionship... but how clever are our pooches? Well, surprising new research says small dogs can be more intelligent than larger ones. The team at the University of Montpellier, in France, say they were shocked to find that small dogs - like chihuahuas - have larger brains relative to how small they are, but larger dogs - like huskies and border collies - which are often considered to be very intelligent and helpful to humans, have smaller brains relative to their larger bodies.

Dr Ana Balcarcel, who led the team behind the study, says brain size has an impact on something called "cognitive ability" - or intelligence. The study results showed that "complex skills and cooperative behaviour" are more likely to be present in dogs with bigger brains and smaller bodies.

