Appetitive behavior The initial component of an elicited behavior sequence. Appetitive behavior is variable, occurs in response to general spatial cues, and serves to bring the organism in contact with releasing stimuli that elicit consummatory responses.

Behavior system A sequence of response modes and corresponding behavioral and neurobiological control mechanisms that are activated in a coordinated manner to achieve particular functions such as feeding or defense against predation.

Consummatory behavior Behavior that brings an elicited behavior sequence to completion; behavior that consummates or finishes a sequence of elicited responses.

Elicited behavior A specific behavior or action pattern that occurs reliably upon presentation of a particular stimulus (its eliciting stimulus).

Ethology A specialization in biology concerned with the analysis of species-typical behavior patterns that evolve in natural habitats.

Focal search mode A response mode in the feeding system that is activated once a potential source of food has been identified.

General search mode The initial response mode of the feeding system in which the organism reacts to general features of the environment with responses that enable it to come in contact with a variety of potential sources of food.

Hydraulic model A model in ethology according to which certain factors lead to the buildup of a particular type of motivation or drive that increases the likelihood of corresponding modal action patterns. Performance of the modal action patterns reduces or discharges the motivational state.

Modal action pattern A response pattern that occurs in much the same fashion most of the time and in most members of a species. Modal action patterns are often used as basic units of

behavior in ethological investigations of behavior.

Reflex A unit of elicited behavior involving a specific environmental event and its corresponding specific elicited response.

Reflex arc Neural structures, consisting of the afferent (sensory) neuron, interneuron, and efferent (motor) neuron, that enable a stimulus to elicit a reflex response.

Releasing stimulus The specific feature of an object or animal that elicits a modal action pattern in another organism. Same as *Sign stimulus.*

Species-typical behavior Behavior that is characteristic of most members of a particular species.