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Research Summary

There is a stark contrast between the relationship involving body size and life expectancy when comparing the trend in domestic dogs to most other animals. This research endeavor seeks to explore the multitude of reasons why this is the case. This discrepancy within the animal kingdom will be examined by first establishing the scientifically understood and accepted relationship between body size and life expectancy in animals, and then furthermore into mammals. It is then imperative to discuss the inverse relationship that domestic dogs possess when compared to most other animals. Once this groundwork has been laid, there is much to be learned as to why this phenomenon occurs. From genetics to evolution to artificial selection, there seems to be much that is already understood, but there seems to be no one concrete explanation, which has left the door open for more research into this topic.