



sanctuaryone
at Double Oak Farm

Animal Behavior

Today you are going to learn about animal behavior. This activity teaches students what is animal behavior and how to identify behaviors in your own pets.

Let's start to try and understand what behavior is. Behavior is how something interacts with its surroundings. Surroundings could include environment and other organisms.

How do you communicate with your parents or friends?

How do you communicate with an animal or pet?

Are there any differences in the way you communicate with a pet vs a friend? If so, what are the differences?

There are three ways that we communicate verbally, physically, and chemically. An example of a verbal communication is when you tell your parents you are hungry.

What is an example of physical communication?



sanctuaryone
at Double Oak Farm

Physical communication could be a high-five, a hug and petting your dog or cat.

An example of chemical communication is when a skunk sprays a predator. What is that skunk communicating to the predator?

Understanding what your pet is trying to communicate to you is an important step in being a good pet owner. Below are two charts: one to study cat communication, and the other to study dog communication. These two charts are only an introduction into pet communication. Our pets tell use more then we know. After the charts there are a few practice pictures to help you learn how to read the charts. Then you are ready use the two charts below and the guiding questions to help you better understand what your pet is communicating to you.

Once you understand what you pet is saying to you can then learn how to communicate to your pet. How you communicate with your pet is different then the way you communicate with your friends or family. Your pet speaks a different language then we do. By learning how to communicate with your pet your bond will grow and this will help you understand how to make your pet happy and healthy.



DOGGIE LANGUAGE

starring Boogie the Boston Terrier



ALERT



SUSPICIOUS



ANXIOUS



THREATENED



ANGRY



"PEACE!"
look away/head turn



STRESSED
yawn



STRESSED
nose lick



"PEACE!"
sniff ground



"RESPECT!"
turn & walk away



"NEED SPACE"
whale eye



STALKING



STRESSED
scratching



STRESS RELEASE
shake off



RELAXED
soft ears, blinky eyes



"RESPECT!"
offer his back



FRIENDLY & POLITE
curved body



FRIENDLY



"PRETTY PLEASE"
round puppy face



"I'M YOUR LOVEBUG"
belly-rub pose



"HELLO I LOVE YOU!"
greeting stretch



"I'M FRIENDLY!"
play bow



"READY!"
prey bow



"YOU WILL FEED ME"



CURIOUS
head tilt



HAPPY
(or hot)



OVERJOYED
wiggly



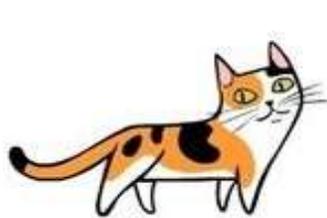
"MMMM...."



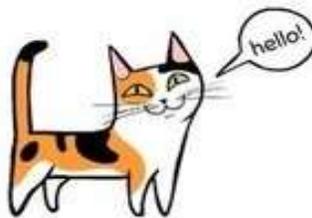
"I LOVE YOU,
DON'T STOP"



CAT LANGUAGE



INTERESTED



FRIENDLY



ATTENTIVE



RELAXED



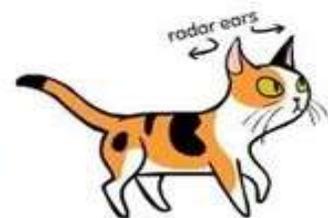
TRUSTING



FRIENDLY, RELAXED



CONTENT



CONFLICTED, CAUTIOUS



PLAYFUL



EXCITED



"THIS IS MINE"



ANXIOUS



PREDATORY



WORRIED



FRIGHTENED



THREATENED



TERRIFIED



SUPER TERRIFIED



IRRITATED



DISGUSTED



sanctuaryone
at Double Oak Farm



In figure 1 what is the cat communicating? Use the cat language chart.

What in the photo is telling you that?



In figure 2 what is the cat communicating? Use the cat language chart

What in the photo is telling you that?

In figure 1 the cat is attentive. We can tell this because ears are forward, the cats back is straight, and the eyes are focused.

In figure 2 the cat is trusting. The cat is on its back with the belly exposed. The belly of a cat is the most vulnerable part of their body by exposing this to you that means they trust you. It doesn't always mean that they want a belly rub.



sanctuary**one**
at Double Oak Farm

Use these questions to help guide you in understanding your pet.

Watch your pet for 5 minutes.

Describe what your pet was doing.

Using the chart what is your pet trying to communicate?

Repeat these two steps through out the day.

Did you learn anything new about your pet?

Thank you for participating in Sanctuary One education. We hope you enjoyed this activity!