



Animal Management



Types of Communication

- **Auditory**

Animals use sounds to communicate danger, feeding, reproductive readiness, species recognition and to mark and defend a territory.

Auditory signals have many variations, are distinguishable and can be carried over a long distance.

Animals vocalize when disturbed, distressed or hungry.

Group interactions and relationships are maintained through sound.

Mothers identify their offspring through distinctive auditory signals and young animals vocalize to solicit care-giving behaviors from their mothers.

Types of Communication



● Olfactory

Breath odor, urine, feces and body odor play a role in olfactory communication.

Individual odor recognition and release of pheromones trigger immediate behaviors.

Pheromones are hormones or chemicals, which work between individuals to stimulate distinct behaviors.

Smell can give animals information about the identity and rank of another animal, readiness to breed, offspring recognition and location of prey.

Some animals use smell as a defense mechanism, both to prevent and thwart predatory attempts. Males use the scent of their urine to mark territory boundaries.

Animal Management TM



Types of Communication cont.

- o **Tactile**

Touch is used in social bonding, infant care, grooming, courtship and mating.

Mutual grooming helps to solidify and promote bonding. Proper behavior among animals is taught through specific touch patterns, for example “scruffing” the neck of a puppy or a kitten.

Young animals initiate play through touch and touch each other, as well as adults, at a higher rate of incidence than do adult animals.



Types of Communication cont.

○ Visual

Visual messages may be communicated by a variety of means such as color, posture, shape or movement.

Visual signals are made by the ears, eyes, tail and general posture of the animal.

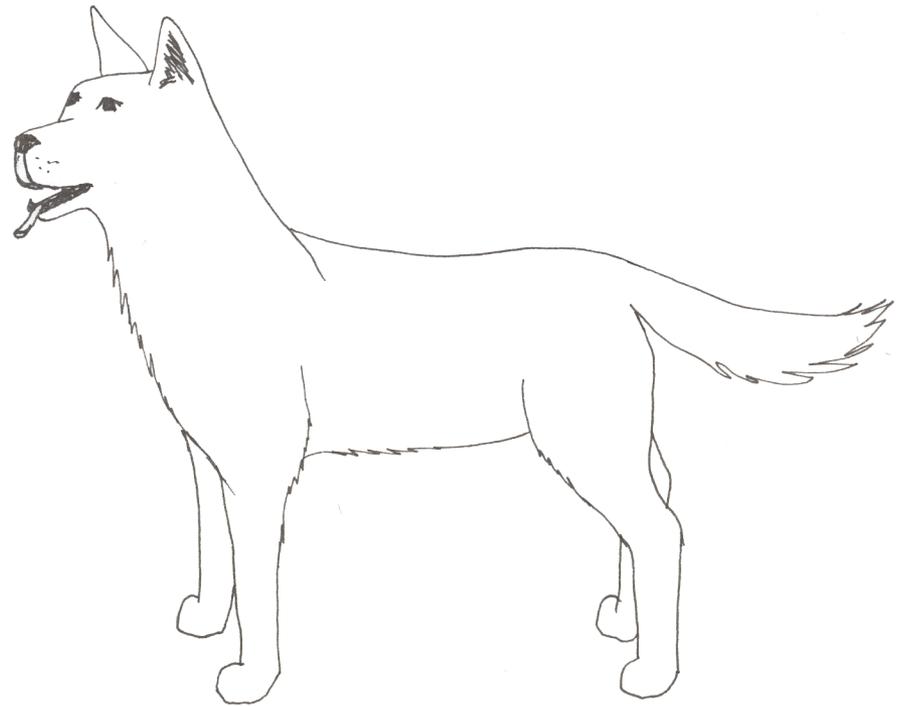
Successful animal-to- animal, animal-to-human relationships depend on this “body language” .

Visual signals can carry much information that is only effective if the recipient recognizes and interprets the message correctly.



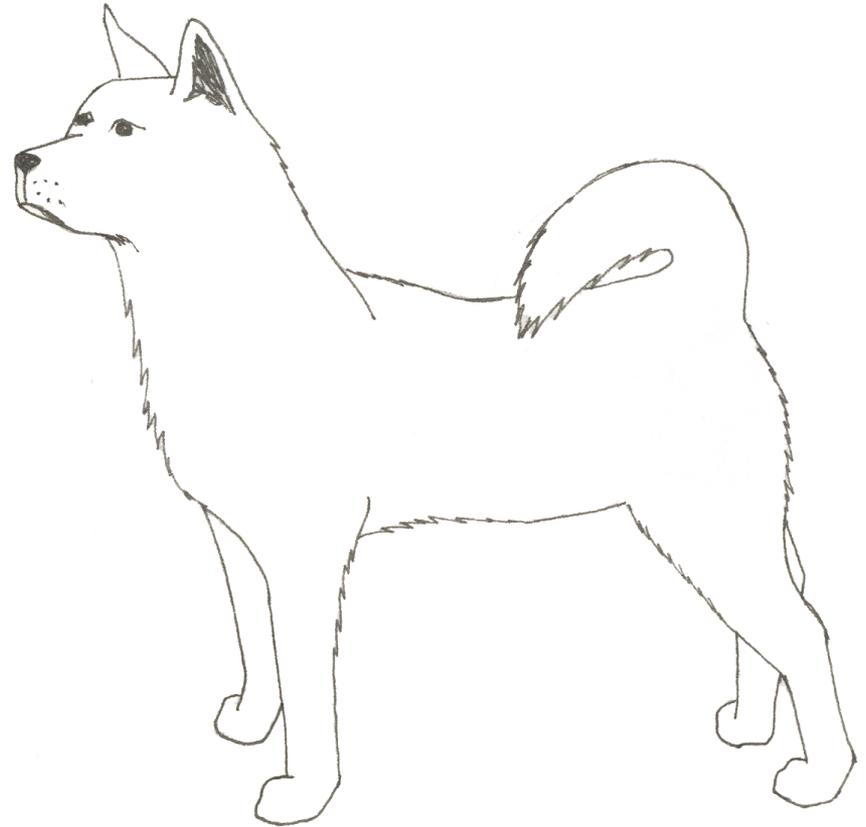
Visual Communication

- Canine – relaxed
 - Tail down and relaxed
 - Mouth slightly open, tongue out
 - Ears forward
 - Loose stance



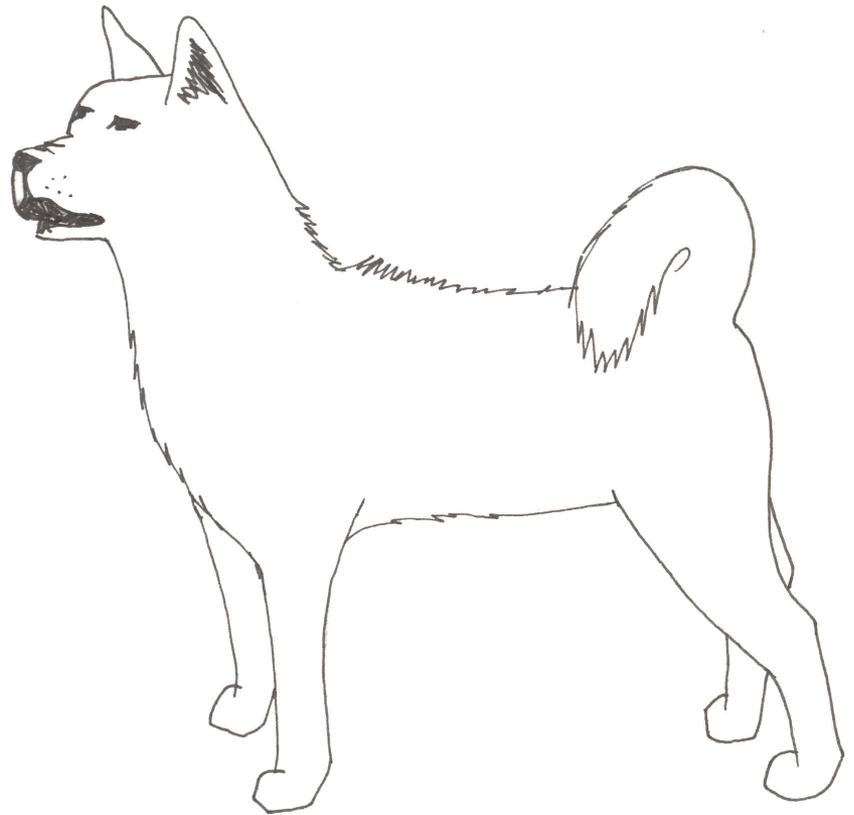
Visual Communication

- Canine – alert
 - Ears pricked forward
 - Tail stiff
 - Mouth closed
 - Stands forward on toes



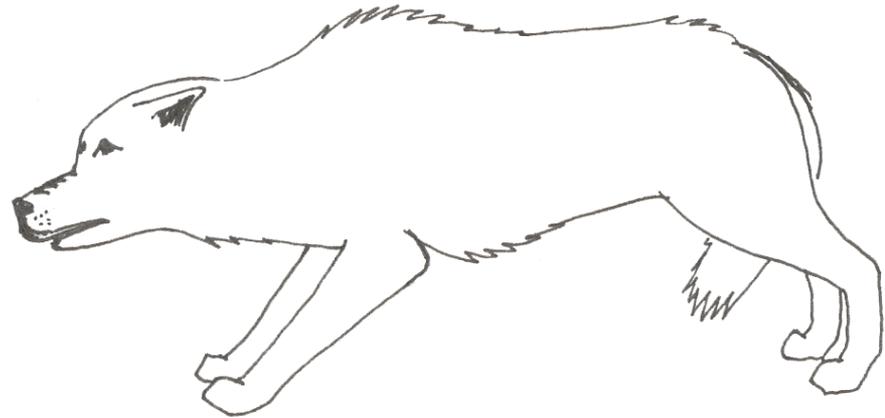
Visual Communication

- Canine – aggression
 - Hackles raised
 - Tail bristled and stiff
 - Nose curled, lips wrinkled
 - Teeth and gums visible
 - Stiff-legged, body leaning forward



Visual Communication

- Canine – fear
 - Hackles raised
 - Tail tucked
 - Body low to the ground
 - Nose and lips curled
 - Ears back



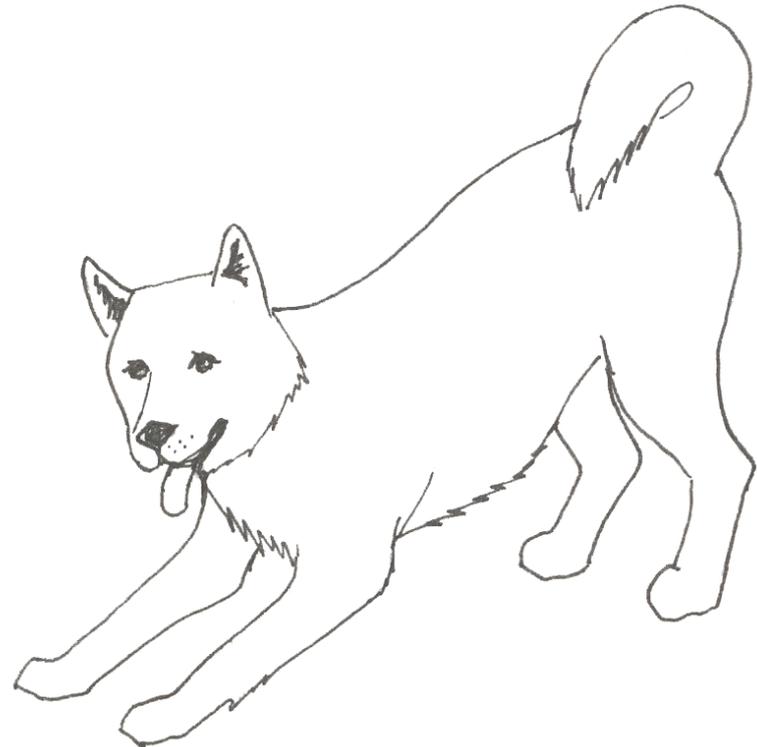
Visual Communication

- Canine – Submission
 - Rolled on back with stomach and throat exposed
 - Tail tucked
 - Ears back
 - Avoids eye contact
 - May dribble urine



Visual Communication

- Canine – play
 - Front end lowered
 - Tail up and waving
 - Ears up
 - Mouth open with tongue out



Behavior Factors

- **Environmental** - The immediate physical surroundings of the animal including cleanliness, temperature, humidity, lighting and noise, exercise, human contact and social interaction, enclosure size and access to food.
- **Health** - An animal's state of physical and mental health can contribute to abnormal behavior.

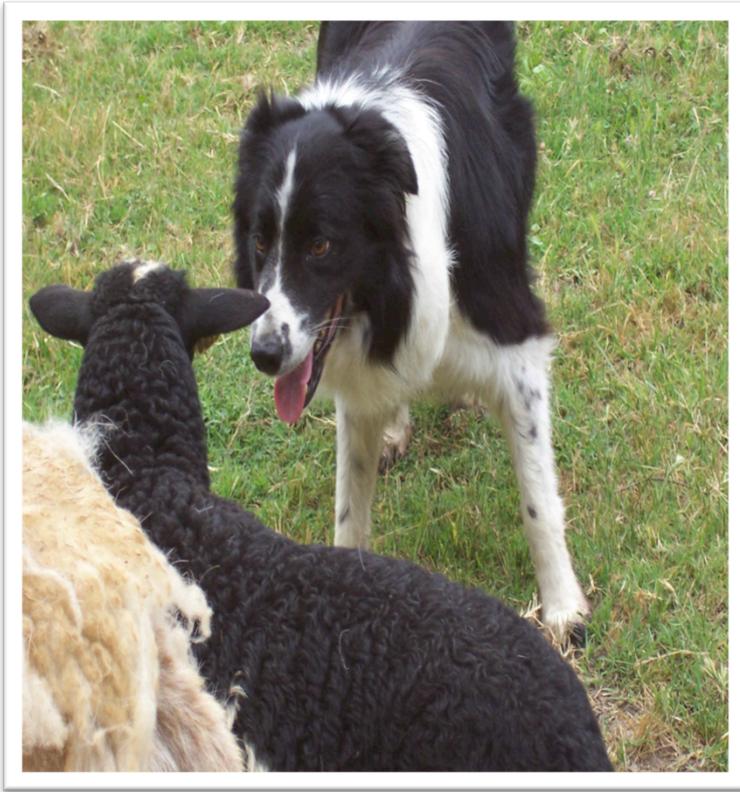


Behavior Factors

- **Experience** - The way an animal is raised affects its behavior.
- Early enrichment and exposure to common situations should be encouraged.
- The temperament of an animal remains “plastic” through its life and is shaped or changed by interactions with people, experience or training.
- Positive training can help identify possible behavior problems and bring out inherent abilities.



Behavior Factors



- **Genetic** - Genetics play a role in basic temperament and behavioral characteristics.
- Animal breeders have long recognized the heritability of basic temperaments in familial lines.
- Many aspects of animal behavior are also affected by evolution. Dogs exhibit behaviors shaped by their wolf ancestors.

Patterns of Behavior

- **Ingestive** – patterns and methods of obtaining, eating and drinking food.
- **Eliminative** – urinating and defecating behaviors such as marking territory and burying feces.
- **Sexual** – courtship and mating patterns
- **Mother – young** – care-giving and care-seeking behaviors.
- **Agonistic** – behaviors associated with conflict or danger such as “fight or flight” and aggression.
- **Gregarious** – the social structures formed in herds, flocks, packs, etc.
- **Social** – interactions between individual animals.
- **Shelter-seeking** – patterns used to seek shelter from the elements.
- **Investigative** – how animals explore their surroundings.
- **Sleep and rest** – the patterns of sleep and rest controlled by internal rhythms.

Basic Training Theories

Positive reinforcement – correct behavior is rewarded with a pleasant stimulus.

Example – dog is told to sit, it sits, dog receives treat within 3 to 5 seconds.

Owner can also reinforce unwanted behavior with positive reinforcement.

Allowing dog to come inside when barking - encourages barking!

Begging, stealing, and jumping on people.

Showing excitement or even mild punishment can be a reward if dog is getting attention.

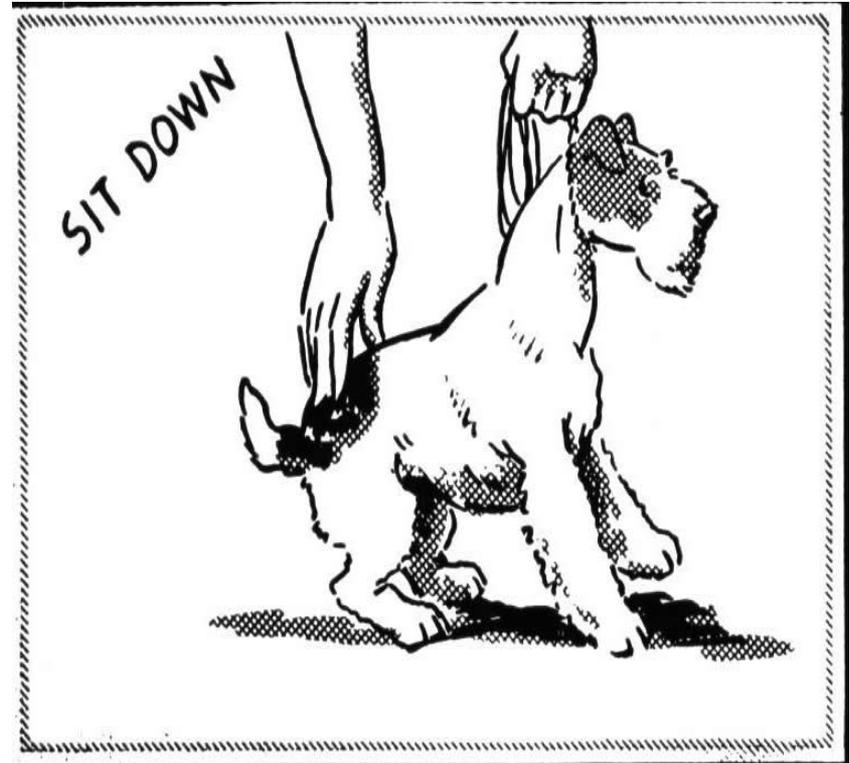


Basic Training Theories

Negative reinforcement -
NOT PUNISHMENT animal escapes or avoids an unpleasant stimulus by performing a behavior.

Example – using a choke collar to make dog sit, dog avoids tightening collar by sitting.

Fear-biting is negatively reinforced. Person approaches (negative stimulus), dog bites, person backs away removing the negative stimulus and rewarding the dog.



Basic Training Theories



- **Punishment** – the presentation of a negative stimulus immediately follows a behavior that serves to decrease the probability that the behavior will be repeated.
- This is the most over-used and abused behavior modification technique.
- *Punishment after-the-fact is not effective!*

Basic Training Theories



- **Extinction** – removal of positive reinforcement.
- Example – ignoring a barking dog. The behavior may increase for a while, but eventually the barking will stop.
- The trick is that you must outlast the dog. This is one of the most effective techniques, but is difficult to implement correctly.