

Speak!

What is your dog saying?

Just like you, dogs have feelings too! Dogs tell us how they're feeling with their whole bodies. Be a "doggie detective" and watch and learn. The more we understand what they're saying, the better we can care for them and keep everyone safe.

Respect when a dog is saying "please leave me alone".

Here are some warning signs and what the dog may be feeling:

- **Ears** - flat and back = scared or unsure.

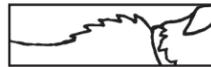


- **Eyes** - can see the white part ("half moon") of the eyes = scared or upset.



- **Mouth** - growling and showing teeth = angry.

Yawning or licking = unsure. Not just tired or hungry!



- **Fur** - "spikes" or hackles up = scared or angry.

- **Tail** - tucked = scared. Held high, wagging and stiff = angry. WAGGING TAIL DOESN'T JUST MEAN HAPPY! Look at the rest of the body.



- **Body** - stiff = angry. Crouched low, lifting paw = scared. If they're leaning away or moving away from you give them space.

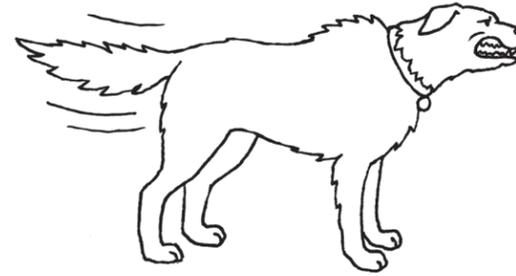


A dog that tries to bite isn't being mean or bad. They don't want to bite. They may be scared, hurt, or protecting something they love, like their family, toy, or food.

Use your new detective skills to help you with the activities on the following pages.

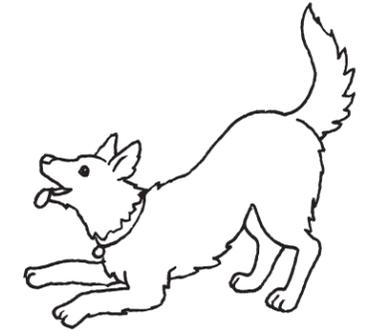
Dogs and cats learn how to "talk" from their mom and brothers and sisters. That is one of many reasons puppies and kittens **MUST** stay with their mom for at least eight weeks. They will be happy, healthy and learn good manners.

How are these dogs feeling?



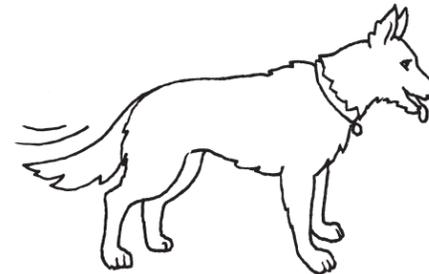
1. _____

Excited



4. _____

Scared



Angry

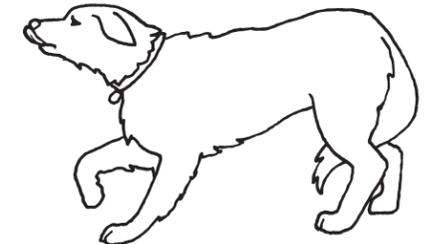
2. _____

Playful



3. _____

Happy



5. _____

Which of these dogs are saying "please leave me alone"?

1. Angry 2. Happy 3. Excited 4. Playful 5. Scared