

ASA Presentation Notes Lesson 3.2 Animal Behavior

Unit Name: [Unit 3 Animal Handling and Safety](#)
Lesson Topic: [Lesson 3.2 Manipulating Manners](#)
Presentation on: [Animal Behavior and Handling](#)

Notes from Presentation:

Animal Behavior

- Reaction of organism to stimuli or the environment
- Ethology – The study of animal behavior in their natural habitat
- Behaviors:
 - Instinctive
 - Learned

Instinct:

- Behavior that occurs automatically to a stimulus
- Genetic
- Examples: eating, drinking, and breeding

Types of Behaviors

- Social
 - Interactions with each other – herding/flocking
- Reproductive
 - Courtship and mating
- Ingestive
 - Eating and drinking
- •Maternal
 - Caring for young
 - Protective of newly born offspring
- Combative
 - Positioning for dominance within group
 - Defensive

Communication

- Animals communicate with sight, sound, and smell.

Learned Behaviors

- Imprinting
 - Animals attaching themselves (socializing) to an individual early on
- Conditioning
 - Training an animal to respond to a stimulus
- Habituation
 - Getting used to or ignoring a stimulus

Working with Animals

- Understanding the behavior of animals aids in safe handling
- Major considerations:
 - Temperament

- Degree of tameness
- Perceptions of animals

Novelty

- New or different things in the environment of an animal causes it stress.
- The effect of novel items on animals is dependent on training and temperament.
 - Flighty animals will spook more easily.
 - Flighty animals are also more curious about new objects when left alone.

Vision

- Livestock can see a wider range than humans
- Blind spot is directly behind them
- Depth perception tends to be poor
- Changes in flooring surface, lighting, color, and movement cause distraction and possible fright and balking

Noise

- Animals have a different sensitivity to noise than people
- Unexpected and loud noises increase the likelihood of stress
- Continuous sound, such as music, can condition animals to be less stressed around noise

Flight Zones

- Personal space of an animal
- Size is based on familiarity with people
 - Tame animals have no flight zone
- In the flight zone
 - Animals turn and move away
- Outside the flight zone
 - Animals face and look at person
- Point of balance
 - Shoulder
 - Stand in front of it and animals will move backward
 - Stand behind and they will move forward

Safe Handling

- Calm and orderly movements and mannerisms
- Avoid yelling, running, or entering the blind spot of an animal
- Move into the flight zone behind the point of balance to start animals moving forward

ASA Reflection Page

List 5 key points that are important to remember from this presentation.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

List 3 ideas or concepts that this new information has in common with previous things learned.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

List questions or ideas that remain unclear about the information presented that should be asked for clarity at the appropriate time.