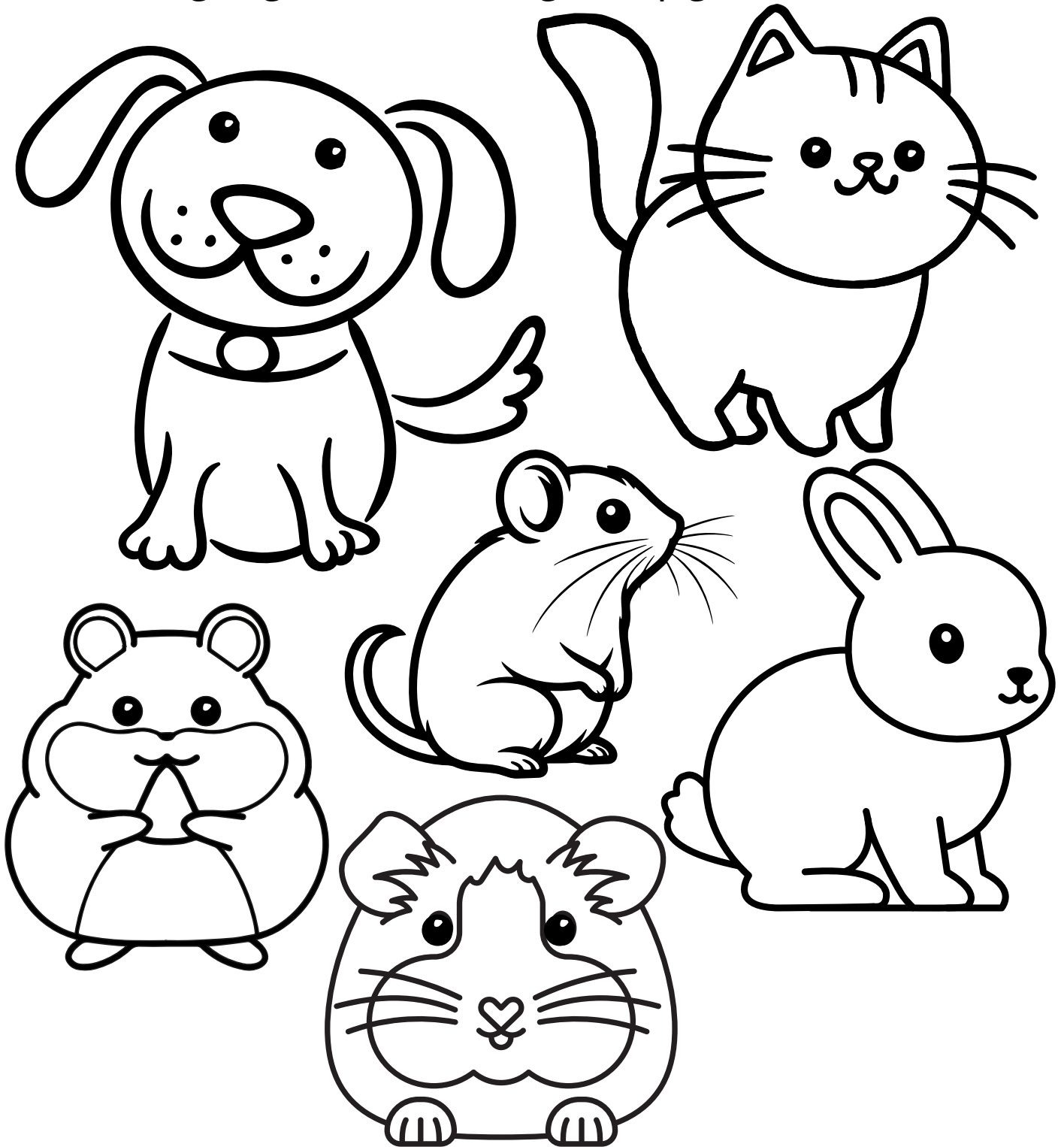




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Cheltenham Animal Shelter looks after lots of different pets including dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea pigs and hamsters.



Can you colour in these pets who are waiting for their new rescue home?



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When meeting or interacting with dogs, we must consider whether it is an enjoyable experience.
We must ALWAYS provide a dog with SPACE and CHOICE for them to feel happy and for us to stay safe.



BAD

This photo shows a BAD interaction; the dog has no SPACE or CHOICE. The dog is NOT COMFORTABLE



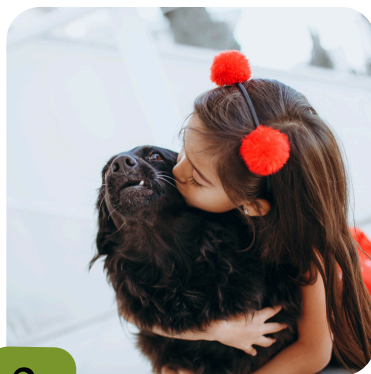
GOOD

This photo shows a GOOD interaction; the dog has SPACE and CHOICE to move freely. The dog is COMFORTABLE

Can you write if the photos below show GOOD or BAD interactions?
Think about whether the dog has SPACE and CHOICE.
Also, is the dog COMFORTABLE or NOT COMFORTABLE?



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



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It is important to think about safety when you are walking or exercising dogs. Read the below scenarios- can you spot what went wrong on each dog walk and how they could be made safer?



Scenario 1

Gemma harnesses up her dog Tyson and removes his collar ready to go for a walk. As soon as Gemma opens her front door, Tyson gets excited and manages to slip out of his harness and runs off. Gemma shouts at Tyson to come back but he has gone out of sight.

Scenario 2

Danny is out walking his friends dog, Patch.

Danny arrives at an open playing field where he decides to let Patch off for a run. When off lead, Patch dashes to the other side of the field where another dog is walking on it's lead with it's owner. Patch pushes into the other dog, which then causes the other dog to snap back at Patch.



Scenario 3



Tom has taken his dog Bryn for his usual walk around the local housing estate. When walking down a footpath, he passes by another person. Bryn gets excited and jumps up, nearly knocking the passing person down. Tom pulls Bryn away and quickly rushes off to continue his walk.



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It is important to think about safety when you are walking or exercising dogs. Read the below scenarios- can you spot what went wrong on each dog walk and how they could be made safer?

Scenario 1- ANSWERS



No collar on which means no I.D tag - required by law.

Harness has not been fitted correctly, walking equipment should be checked regularly.

Door manners- Teaching your dog about boundaries with doors or gateways is important for your dogs safety from cars/roads etc.

Lack of recall - Tyson does not come back when called.

Scenario 2- ANSWERS

Danny doesnt own Patch so its important to ensure he is aware of Patches behaviour/needs

Lack of recall - Patch does not come back when called.

Poorly socialised behaviour - it is threatening for dogs to dash over to others, especially when they are trapped on a lead.

Distance- Danny is far away from Patch so cannot intervene- a longline would help give him more control



Scenario 3- ANSWERS



Tom allows Bryn to jump up- teaching good greeting manners is important for dogs.

Whilst Bryn was potentially being friendly, jumping at people is still deemed as an out of control dog by the Dangerous Dogs Act.

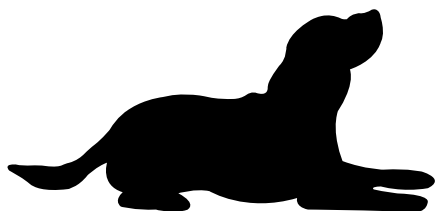
Tom does not apologise, he rushes off without acknowledging his behaviour is inappropriate.



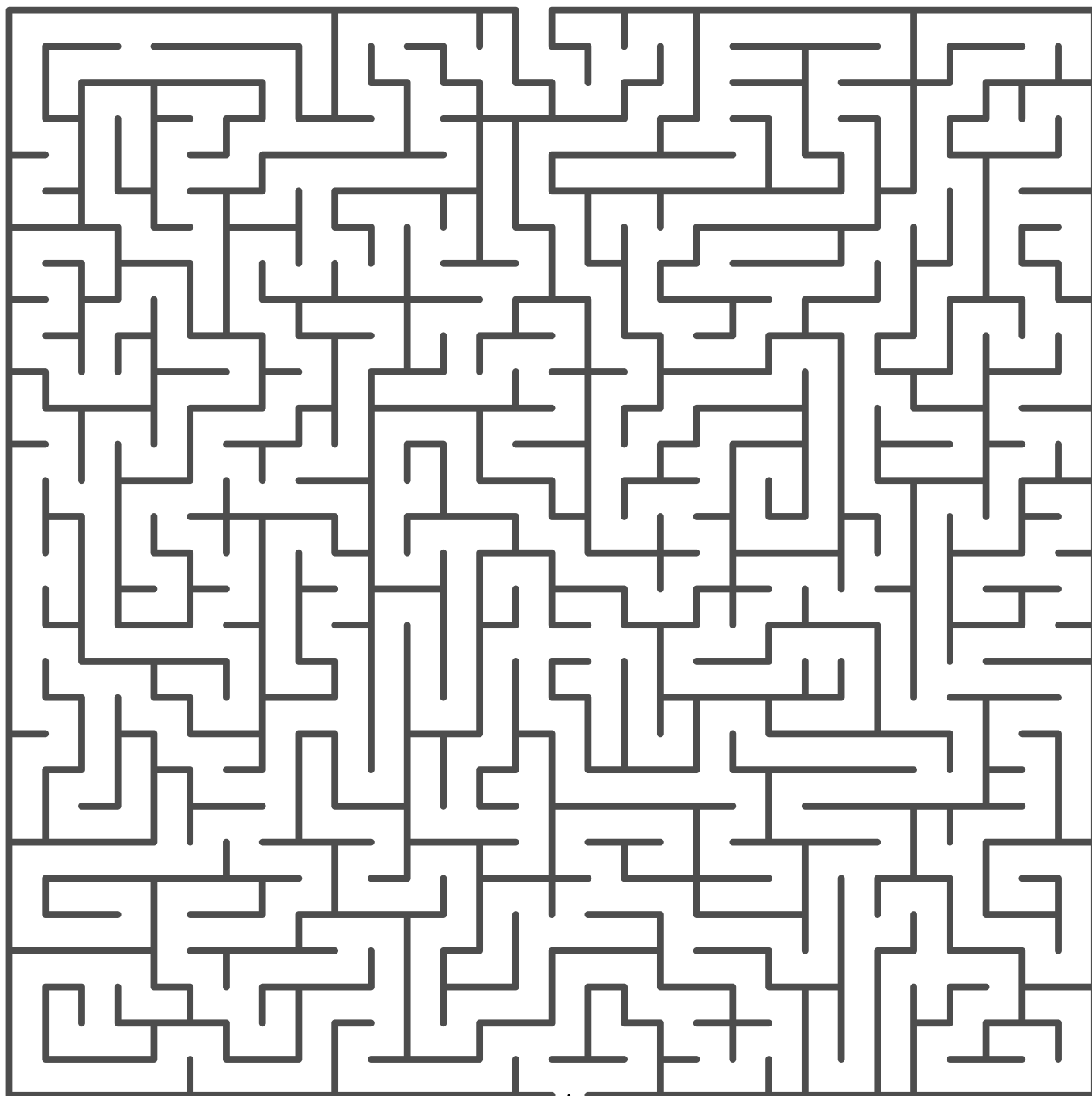
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To stay safe, we should never approach dogs who are without an owner, sleeping in their bed, or chewing high valued treats such as bones or chews.



Can you lead this dog to his treat where
he can be given space to enjoy it?





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Dogs use their body language to show us how they feel.
Below are examples of worried/unsure dogs- can you write
down how you think the dog is using its body language to
show us this?





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Dogs use their body language to show us how they feel. Below are examples of worried/unsure dogs- can you write down how you think the dog is using its body language to show us this? ANSWERS!



Ears in flat position, tail tucked under, mouth clamped shut, body leaning away (avoidance)



This dog is nose/lip-licking, which can be an early sign of stress in dogs



Ears back in flat position, mouth clamped shut, body hunched/head low (avoidance)



This dog is yawning, which can be an early sign of stress in dogs



The whites of the eye are visible (Whale eye) plus ears back, mouth clamped shut



Lip curled up and teeth exposed- high level sign of worry or stress in dogs



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Dogs show us how they feel using their face, tail or body, which is known as 'body language'. The list below shares some of the body language dogs may use to show us they are worried or unsure. Did you know even yawning can be a sign of stress in dogs!
Can you find the hidden words in the crossword below?

N	T	B	T	K	L	K	K	R	N	J	P	A	U	T	N	Z	W
S	F	U	T	U	F	X	G	W	D	E	H	G	O	A	V	S	C
T	Q	E	R	R	R	W	W	X	M	W	I	F	Q	I	G	N	R
A	O	A	A	N	K	N	I	V	T	U	D	P	Y	L	R	A	O
R	R	J	H	R	I	E	I	D	M	Q	E	V	L	T	O	P	U
E	U	C	Y	A	S	N	G	N	E	B	B	R	L	U	W	L	C
S	K	J	D	A	O	B	G	O	G	E	M	N	N	C	L	T	H
E	F	B	O	E	W	O	A	H	A	B	Y	D	J	K	O	V	E
W	C	C	D	E	E	N	S	C	E	C	O	E	V	E	K	U	D
Q	C	B	L	I	N	K	O	E	K	A	A	D	S	D	I	D	P
U	B	L	C	R	E	E	P	I	N	G	D	E	Y	Q	U	H	D
L	I	P	L	I	C	K	H	B	M	B	I	E	I	H	G	N	Q

TURNING HEAD

TURNING BODY

TAIL TUCKED

EARS BACK

WIDE EYES

CROUCHED

CREEPING

LIP LICK

GROWL

STARE

BLINK

SNAP

YAWN

HIDE



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When meeting any dog, it's important to keep both you and the dog safe and happy. The steps below can be a good guide to follow to have a safe interaction:

1

ASK the owner of the dog before you approach 'Can I stroke your dog?'

Not all dogs like to be stroked



2


Approach slowly, giving the dog SPACE & then WAIT!
Let the dog sniff you before you try & touch.

Do not hold your fist out for them to smell- this can be scary to dogs



3

Once the dog has APPROACHED YOU, check first if it is showing signs of unhappiness.

 This can be a tucked-under tail, licking its lips, yawning or ignoring you. Do not touch a dog showing these signs

4

Now you can stroke the dog gently on the chest or back up to 3 TIMES & stop- this gives the dog CHOICE.

Do not stroke the top of their head!

3

5

After 3 strokes, check if the dog is still happy - look for a RELAXED tail wagging.

If the dog moves away, it is saying 'I am finished with petting'



6

REMEMBER:

- Always check with your grown up first
- Never approach dogs that are without an owner
- Use quiet voices and soft hands
- Give dogs SPACE & CHOICE



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When meeting any dog, it's important to keep both you and the dog safe and happy. Using Page 1 to help, can you write down the 'How to safely meet a dog' steps in the correct order below?

1

2



3

4

×

3

5

6

Things to remember....

