

Puppy Love

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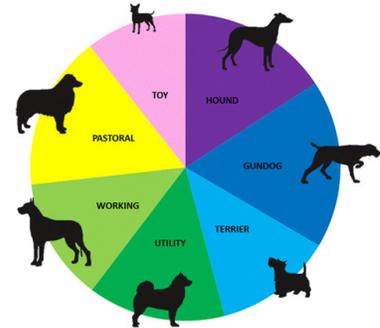
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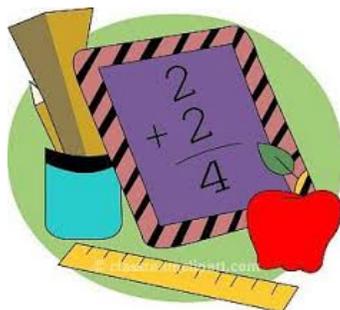


Is There a Toddler In Your House?

Dr. Stanley Cohen, leading canine researcher at the University of British Columbia and author of more than a half-dozen books on dog behavior, has concluded through researching numerous studies that dogs have the ability to solve complex problems and are more like humans and other higher primates than previously thought. In an interview Cohen stated, "Their stunning flashes of brilliance and creativity are reminders that they may not be Einsteins but are sure closer to humans than we thought." A dog's Intelligence has three distinctive forms: instinctive (what domestication has bred them to do), adaptive (learning to manipulate their environment), and obedience (what they are taught by humans). Dogs have an uncanny ability to solve problems by using life experiences and by observing people and other dogs. They know how to determine the quickest route to an object they want and can learn how to manipulate latches and simple machines. During play, dogs are even capable of deliberately trying to deceive other dogs and people in order to get rewards. The average dog can learn 165 words, including signals, and the "super dogs" (those in the top 20% of dog intelligence) can learn 250 words. Cohen says dogs' mental abilities are close to a human child age 2 to 2-and-a-half years old. The answer to the question is YES. If you have a fur baby in your family you have a toddler in the house.



From a list of the 100 smartest dogs the number one slot goes to Border Collies because of the "smart" way they herd sheep in predetermined patterns. Number two is the Poodle followed by; the German Shephard, Golden Retriever, Doberman, Shetland Sheep Dog, Labrador, Papillion and the Rottweiler. The elegant Afghan hound comes in dead last on the list of 100. But that is still not bad because there are over 200 breeds of dogs. As for the dachshund on that list, they didn't fair too bad, they hold the number 50 spot.



Dogs have a basic understanding of arithmetic and will notice errors in simple mathematical computations such as $1+2=4$, some can count up to five. Not a believer, consider this observation from Phil Pastoret ~ "If you think dogs can't count, try putting three dog biscuits in your pocket and then giving Fido only two of them."



Happy lives with his wonderful family in Nevada.