

## ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR

Our pets may not be able to talk to us but they definitely let us know how they are feeling with their body language. Animals may feel the need to protect or feel scared and this might change the way they interact with us. We must understand this so our animals remain happy and we all stay safe.

Take a look at the table below about dogs, cats, and rabbits.

ANIMAL	DOG	CAT	RABBIT
RELAXED	<ul> <li>Relaxed stance or looking to play</li> <li>Smooth hair</li> <li>Mouth open, tongue may be out</li> <li>Ears up or hanging down relaxed</li> <li>Normal eye shape</li> <li>Wagging tail</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Standing, sitting, lying down, stretching out</li> <li>Ears are in a normal position</li> <li>Tail is relaxed, tip may be curved</li> <li>Normal eye shape</li> <li>Mouth closed</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lying down and relaxed position. Legs may be stretched out backwards</li> <li>Head normal position</li> <li>Ears flopping over</li> <li>Normal eye shape</li> </ul>
WORRIED	<ul> <li>Trying to look small or lying down</li> <li>Head held down</li> <li>Tail tucked down</li> <li>Ears held back</li> <li>Yawning and licking lips</li> <li>Avoiding eye contact</li> <li>Raising a paw</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Hunched position, tense and tightly held posture and may be hiding</li> <li>Tail tucked into body</li> <li>Ears pricked up and may be sideways</li> <li>Head held down</li> <li>Pupils dilated and eyes wide</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Crouching and limbs held tightly to body</li> <li>May be hiding</li> <li>Head down</li> <li>Tense position</li> <li>Ears flattened down</li> <li>Eyes wide</li> </ul>
ANGRY / UNHAPPY	<ul> <li>Stiff and holding one position</li> <li>Head tilted up</li> <li>Ears flat or up but tense</li> <li>Eye contact maintained and big wide eyes</li> <li>Teeth showing with lips held up</li> <li>Stiff tail held up</li> <li>Growling or keeps barking</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lying down as flat as possible or standing with hair fluffed up</li> <li>Ears flat to the head or held out tense</li> <li>Mouth is open and tense, teeth may be showing</li> <li>Limbs close to body or stiff ready to swipe</li> <li>Pupils dilated and wide eyes</li> <li>Tail tense or swishing</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Quick movements, may run away or stomp feet</li> <li>Sitting up and with paws in front of body</li> <li>Tense muscles and stiff position</li> <li>Ears either flat or held up high</li> <li>May be vocalizing – grunting or growling</li> <li>Wide eyes and maintaining eye contact</li> <li>Tail stiff or raised</li> </ul>

Now you have read about the animal behaviour, match up the descriptions to the pictures of the animals below.

