VSA Skill Assessment Criteria Quick Reference

Basic Manners Behaviors Results Assessments



Skill Assessment	Antecedent	Behavior	Consequence	Aspect of interest
Sit	Student sits in a chair	Dog sits (squarely if able)	Food, toy, or life reward	Distraction (position of trainer)
Touch	Toy on the floor	Nose touch from 6 feet away	Food, toy, or life reward	Distraction (toy in environment)
Down	In a novel room	Dog lies down (elbow & belly on floor)	Food, toy, or life reward	Distraction (novel environment)
Recall	In driveway	Dog moves w/n 2' of student	Food, toy, or life reward	Distraction (outdoors)
Leave it	Treat in open hand	Dog remains in place or backs	Food, toy, or life reward	Distraction (treat in environment)
Wait	Novel object	Dog remains in place until cued	Food, toy, or life reward	Distraction (novel object)
Leash walking	Distraction-free	Team maintains "J" in leash for 10 steps	Food, toy, or life reward	Duration (10 human steps)
Stay	Distraction-free (dog in any position)	Dog remains in place until student returns	Food, toy, or life reward	Distance (6 feet)
Drop	Distraction-free (except for 2 items)	Dog drops one item for 3 seconds	Food, toy, or life reward	Duration (3 seconds)

Last updated: September 21, 2021