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News NKY.Com » News Last Updated: 10:18 am | Saturday, June 6, 2009

Dogs know when they're being treated unfairly

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Scientists used to think that fairness and jealousy were reserved for humans only. But now, the proof is in the puppy. According to a new study, dogs do understand and are sensitive to "inequity" and a lack of fairness in their lives.



Scientists say now we know that dogs, who live in cooperative societies just like humans, stop cooperating when they perceive and experience inequity.

This study is particularly important to those who plan to take a vacation this summer and board their pet. With the explosion of pet resorts in the Greater Cincinnati area, pet owners now have more options than ever.

Understand the behavioral impact that occurs when essential needs such as outdoor time and people interaction are offered à la carte and the minimal benefit that TVs, couches and other non-essential offerings have on your pet's

boarding experience.

What has become all too common is for essential services such as "cuddle time," walks and outdoor play time to be optional. A pay-to-play fee structure overlooks the importance of fairness.

Dogs react negatively to unequal treatment. Because they were not chosen to go outside or to be touched, they think they have done something wrong.

These unlucky dogs do not understand the inequity and unfairness occurring right before them.

But they do feel it.

Randy Boyer is the owner of a nationally accredited pet resort.

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Does anyone else think this looks like a not too subtle advertisement for Randy Boyer's pet resort? I'm surprised the Enquirer printed this article in the paper without the standard "advertisement" warning posted all around it.

6/6/2009 11:43:20 PM

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