

Behavior and Enrichment Intern Curriculum

Week 1

- Tour
- Shadow Behavior and Enrichment Manager
 - o Playgroups
 - o Enrichment
 - o Behavior assessments (SAFERs)
 - o Rounds
- Learn about how Columbus Humane makes decision
 - o Webinar: Decisions, Decisions: All the Tools You Need to Make Tough Calls
- Webinar: Canine Body Language (3-part series)
- Begin Fear Free Shelter certification

Learning Objectives:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of resource-based decision making
2. Demonstrate an understanding of canine body language, both individual elements (ears up, tail low, etc.) and how to view the dog's body language as a whole (from nose to tail)

Week 2

- Webinars: Defensive Handling, AAWA Best Practices Animal Enrichment (4-part series)
- Observe playgroups
- Finish Fear Free Certification
- Assist in enrichment creation

Learning Objectives:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of interdepartmental relationships
2. Demonstrate an understanding of defensive and fear free dog handling
3. Demonstrate the ability to take direction and objectively document canine behavior and body language

Week 3

- Learning theory basics
 - o Behavior modification (in shelter vs. in a home)
 - o Least Invasive Minimally Aversive (LIMA)
- Clicker training
 - o Click for Calm daily
 - o Reinforcing dogs for desirable behaviors
- Webinar: Feline Communication
- Observe playgroups
- Assist in enrichment creation

Learning Objectives:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of LIMA as it relates to dog training and behavior modification
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the Humane Hierarchy
3. Demonstrate the ability to use a clicker
4. Demonstrate an understanding of feline behavior and body language
4. Demonstrate the ability to take direction and objectively document canine behavior and body language

Week 4

- Lead enrichment creation
 - o Ensure that enrichment is pre-made and ready for animal care staff to distribute
- Lead Click for Calm
 - o Three times during each shift
- Observe and document SAFERs
- Assist in playgroups

Learning Objectives:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of how to create each type of enrichment, why a novel enrichment program is most successful, and how enrichment supports health
2. Demonstrate an understanding the importance of behavior assessments, what role behavior assessments serve, and how to objectively document canine body language
3. Demonstrate the ability to take direction and use appropriate tools in playgroups when necessary

Weeks 5-12

- Act as playgroup leader
 - o Tuesday through Friday, 11:30-1:30
- Continue to lead enrichment creation
- Continue to lead enrichment creation
- Continue to lead Click for Calm
- Assess dogs using SAFER behavior assessment

Learning Objectives:

1. Demonstrate the ability to successfully lead a playgroup by providing direction to staff, using tools appropriately, and setting the yard up for success
2. Demonstrate the ability to successfully handle dogs for their behavior assessment and use objective language to describe observable behavior
3. Demonstrate ability to teach a volunteer how to successfully implement Click for Calm