

Name _____

Wagging Tails, Happy Hearts: Understanding and Addressing Dog Behavioral Problems

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Boredom can lead to behavioral problems in dogs because they may resort to destructive behaviors to alleviate their boredom. Ways to alleviate boredom include providing interactive toys, engaging in regular exercise and playtime, and rotating toys to keep things interesting.
2. Punishment is not an effective way to address behavioral problems in dogs because it can lead to fear, anxiety, and aggression. Punishment does not teach the dog what behavior is desired and may worsen the problem behavior.
3. Signs that a dog may be experiencing separation anxiety include pacing, excessive barking or whining, house soiling, destructive behavior, and attempts to escape.
4. Socialization helps prevent or reduce behavioral problems in dogs by exposing them to a variety of people, animals, and environments from a young age. This helps dogs learn to feel comfortable and confident in different situations, reducing the likelihood of fear-based behaviors.

