**Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Stimulus, Response, and Behavior**

**Part 1:** Fill in the blanks below.

A “stimulus” is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A “response” is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A “behavior” is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Behaviors can be “instinctive,” which means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or they can be “learned,” which means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Example of an instinctive dog behavior: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Example of a learned dog behavior: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Part 2:** Read the examples of stimuli and responses. Write 3 more examples of each.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Stimulus** | **Response** |
| The sun comes out. | A plant opens its flowers. |
| A person touches a hot stove burner. | The person moves his/her hand away from the burner. |
| A cat is hungry. | The cat eats some food. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

**Part 3:** For each of the organisms below, cut out the correct stimulus or response from the list below and glue it in the space provided.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Organism** |  | **Stimulus** |  | **Response** |
| Bacteria |  | Sudden change in temperature. |  |  |
| Butterfly |  |  |  | Flying from flower to flower to feed. |
| Cat |  | Sees an injured mouse on the ground. |  |  |
| Duck |  |  |  | Dives under water to find food. |
| Eagle |  | Sees a snake on the ground. |  |  |
| Fish |  |  |  | Swims away. |
| Frog |  |  |  | Catches an insect with its tongue. |
| Grass |  | Plenty of sunlight. |  |  |
| Owl |  |  |  | Flies off to hunt. |
| Tree |  | Less sunlight and days getting colder. |  |  |

**Cut and paste from the list below. You will not use all of the answer choices.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Night approaches | Sees an insect nearby |
| Creeps quietly along the ground | A loud noise on a lake's surface |
| Grows taller | Hears a whistle blow |
| Feels tired | Bright flowers release their scent |
| Leaves turn brown | Smells seeds below water |
| Forms spores to survive | Turns white in winter |
| Dives to the Earth’s surface with talons out | Smells a skunk nearby |

**Answer KEY**

**Stimulus, Response, and Behavior**

**Part 1:** Fill in the blanks below.

A “stimulus” is *a signal from the environment or from within an organism.*

A “response” is *an organism’s reaction to a stimulus.*

A “behavior” is *the way* *an organism responds to a stimulus in its environment.*

Behaviors can be “instinctive,” which means *they do not depend on experience,*

or they can be “learned,” which means *they depend on experience or observation of other organisms*.

Example of an instinctive dog behavior: *Answers will vary*.

Example of a learned dog behavior: *Answers will vary.*

**Part 2:** Read the examples of stimuli and responses. Write 3 more examples of each.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Stimulus** | **Response** |
| The sun comes out. | A plant opens its flowers. |
| A person touches a hot stove burner. | The person moves his/her hand away from the burner. |
| A cat is hungry. | The cat eats some food. |
| *Answers will vary.* |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

**Part 3:** For each of the organisms below, cut out the correct stimulus or response from the list below and glue it in the space provided.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Organism** |  | **Stimulus** |  | **Response** |
| Bacteria |  | Sudden change in temperature. |  | *Forms spores to survive.* |
| Butterfly |  | *Bright flowers release their scent.* |  | Flying from flower to flower to feed. |
| Cat |  | Sees an injured mouse on the ground. |  | *Creeps quietly along the ground.* |
| Duck |  | *Smells seeds below water.* |  | Dives under water to find food. |
| Eagle |  | Sees a snake on the ground. |  | *Dives to the Earth’s surface with talons out.* |
| Fish |  | *A loud noise on a lake's surface.* |  | Swims away. |
| Frog |  | *Sees an insect nearby.* |  | Catches an insect with its tongue. |
| Grass |  | Plenty of sunlight. |  | *Grows taller.* |
| Owl |  | *Night approaches.* |  | Flies off to hunt. |
| Tree |  | Less sunlight and days getting colder. |  | *Leaves turn brown.* |

**Cut and paste from the list below. You will not use all of the answer choices.**

***Shaded choices are not used in this activity.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Night approaches | Sees an insect nearby |
| Creeps quietly along the ground | A loud noise on a lake's surface |
| Grows taller | Hears a whistle blow |
| Feels tired | Bright flowers release their scent |
| Leaves turn brown | Smells seeds below water |
| Forms spores to survive | Turns white in winter |
| Dives to the Earth’s surface with talons out | Smells a skunk nearby |