

Tekst 5

Should Your Dog Be Watching TV?



- 1 Plenty of things will grab a dog's attention: squirrels, tennis balls, funny smells, other dogs. But a TV channel? Absolutely, say the makers of DogTV, the first cable network to deliver 24-hour programming for dogs. The idea, they say, is that flipping on the channel while you go out for the day will keep your pet stimulated, entertained and relaxed. Call it "Sesame Street" for those who will never learn their ABCs. The shows on DogTV are actually three- to six-minute segments featuring grassy fields, bouncing balls and humans rubbing dog tummies. There are also segments featuring vacuum cleaners and doorbells to help make dogs more comfortable around such common household agitations.
- 2 Executives at the network say their programming is scientifically designed to appeal to dogs. "We have three years of research on how dogs react to different stimuli," said Bonnie Vieira, a spokeswoman for DogTV. For instance, she explained, "for dogs who suffer from separation anxiety, DogTV is a tool that might help ease them, so maybe they're not getting into trouble, and they're happier, more relaxed, when you get home."
- 3 But can dogs actually watch, and benefit from, television? Like most questions regarding canine consciousness, the answer depends on whom you ask. "This is to make us feel better as opposed to making the pet happier," said Dr. Ann E. Hohenhaus, a staff veterinarian for the Animal Medical Center in Manhattan. "Your pet needs adequate exercise and an interesting environment. It is an animal and has animal needs."
- 4 Whether your dog actually pays attention to the TV may have more to do with the screen than what's on it, said Stanley Coren, a professor of psychology at the University of British Columbia. "Dogs have terrific motion sensitivity," Dr. Coren said, meaning that the optical illusion that makes still images on a TV appear fluid won't fool them as easily as it does humans. "For many dogs, that's a turn-off. It doesn't look real to them." To increase the chances that your dog will pay attention, place the high-definition TV at the pet's eye level, Dr. Coren advised.



- 5 But, like people, some dogs just aren't that into TV, said Teoti Anderson, a former president of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers. "Two of my dogs do pay attention to the TV depending what's on," she said. "Another one couldn't care less."
- 6 If your dog does show interest, it probably can learn from what it sees on a television, Ms. Anderson said. Exposing a pet to muted versions of everyday irritants like vacuum cleaners and doorbells, for example, is a time-tested method for reducing the animal's fear of them. But an important aspect of the technique is amping up the volume as the dog grows comfortable. 18, depending on how quickly a dog learns, the owner may want to hover nearby to turn up the DogTV volume.
- 7 Still, dog owners shouldn't mistake TV time for quality time, animal behaviorists add. "It definitely isn't a substitute for playtime with your dog," Ms. Anderson said. "Exercise can solve a lot of behavioral problems."

based on an article from *nytimes.com*, 2012

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- 2p 15 Geef van elk van de volgende mogelijkheden aan of deze wel of niet een doel is van 'DogTV' volgens alinea 1 en 2.
- 1 Helping dogs through potentially stressful situations.
 - 2 Keeping dogs happy during their owners' absence.
 - 3 Teaching dogs to understand and communicate with people.
 - 4 Training dogs to get used to different domestic appliances.
- Noteer het nummer van elk doel, gevolgd door "wel" of "niet".
- "But can dogs actually watch, and benefit from, television?" (paragraph 3)
- 1p 16 Who would answer this question with a **clear** 'no'?
- A Bonnie Vieira (paragraph 2)
 - B Dr. Ann E. Hohenhaus (paragraph 3)
 - C Stanley Coren (paragraph 4)
 - D Teoti Anderson (paragraphs 5, 6, 7)
- 1p 17 What is the main point made in paragraph 4?
- A Dogs are very responsive to movement.
 - B Dogs will only react to TV shows that are realistic.
 - C 'DogTV' works because of recent technological innovations.
 - D Most dogs miss the intelligence to interpret moving images.
- 1p 18 Which of the following fits the gap in paragraph 6?
- A However
 - B Moreover
 - C Similarly
 - D Therefore
- 1p 19 How can paragraph 7 best be characterised?
- A As a caution.
 - B As an approval.
 - C As an expectation.