



Books on Behavior

The key to holistic training is increasing awareness. “Awareness of what?” you might ask. Really, just about everything. It means constantly being aware of your dog’s physical and emotional environment and managing them appropriately. This is not a quick fix. It is a life-long process that deepens the relationship between human and dog.

There are only two ways to increase awareness; education and experience. Unfortunately, I can’t help with the latter over the Internet. But as for the first, I’ll share with you some of the resources that led me to the whole-dog approach. Below is a list of recommended books. Each one is listed because they offer valuable insight into canine behavior. Please note, I don’t always agree with 100% of the theories or some of the methods used – especially if they use slip (choke chain) collars. So always ask yourself “Does this fit into a no-harm approach?” and “Will this be best for my dog?”

In no particular order...

Culture Clash, The; Donaldson, Jean

How to speak dog: mastering the art of dog-human communication by Coren, Stanley.

Who Moved My Bone? A Guide to the Multi-Dog Family; Mancuso, Theresa

On Talking Term With Dogs: Calming Signals; Rugaas, Turid

Bones Would Rain From The Sky; Clothier, Suzanne

So Your Dog’s Not Lassie; Fisher, Betty and Delzio, Suzanne

A Holistic Approach to Foundation Training; Andrea Dugan (available from Dogwise.com)