

It's time to train like CMA!

Animal training is just as important as animal care, and it's time for you to learn how to train like the professionals! Throughout this game, you and your partner will demonstrate how our animal care specialists teach our animals new behaviors. Get the whole family involved and let's pretend to be dolphin animal care specialists!

Materials

- Partner
- An audience (1-8 people)

Game set-up

This is game about training animals, so you must act like you are doing just that. You will be creating a behavior for your animal (your partner) to learn without them seeing what you create. You will then be trying to communicate what your partner should do WITHOUT using your voice. That means no talking!

The audience has a job as well, as the animal (partner) gets closer to acting out the behavior, begin slowly and quietly clapping. Once the partner gets the behavior correct, roar with applause and cheer! That is called a bridge, the reward, and it lets the animal know they got the behavior correct!

Game Play

1. Send your partner into another room where they cannot hear or see you.
2. Create a behavior you would like them to do (roll over, jump up, lay down, etc.)
3. Create a hand signal to show your partner how to do the behavior you chose.
4. Call your partner back into the room
5. Show your partner the hand signal and without words, help them accomplish the behavior
6. Once your partner gets the behavior correct, switch roles and play again!

To take it up a notch, introduce the target pole you created after watching our virtual field trip about training! If you missed it, please see instructions called "Create your own target pole"!

