



Wild Discoveries Ethogram

Observed Behavior	Code	Horse Ethogram Behavior Descriptions
Social Behaviors		Can best be described as common postures, facial expressions, or vocalizations towards other animals. Can also be species specific behaviors
Aggression	AG	Aggressive posturing, threatening facial expressions, biting, kicking, fighting, high pitch vocalization
Affiliative	AFL	Friendly and positive behavior to establish or reinforce social bonds, such as grooming another, touching another and/or accepting a touch, nuzzling, licking, or lower pitch vocalizations
Submissive	SB	Retreat away, tail tucking, lowering of body, or shying away from more aggressive animal
Play	PL	Activity that has no apparent use or purpose, but used for a sense of pleasure; object play, locomotor play, sexual play, or play fighting
Sexual	SX	Male or female sexual display, sniffing of genitals or urine, mounting or copulating
Maintenance Behaviors		Can best be described as the daily type of behaviors that assist in keeping animals alive, healthy and happy
Alert	AL	Rigid stance with head, eyes and ears oriented towards object or other animal
Foraging/Eating	ET	Can be seen in grazing and browsing in herbivores, ingestion of specially prepared diets in captive animals or ingestion other animals in predators
Locomotion	LC	Movement of the whole body in a forward, backward, sideward motion (2 or more steps)
Investigative	IN	Sniffing, licking, pawing at unknown object or within an environment; may precedes playing with an object or eating
Grooming	GR	Skin and coat care, can be seen as rolling, shaking, or rubbing, licking, nibbling at coat/skin
Drinking	DR	Ingestion of water
Eliminative	EL	Defecation, urination or regurgitation of food
Standing	ST	Non-alert, no movement, inactive; includes standing while swishing tail or stomping a foot
Laying Down	LD	Resting, inactive
Not Visible	NV	Animal not in sight of the observer

