



Name: _____

Date: _____

Class: _____

Instinct or Learned Behavior?
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Directed Inquiry

 30 minutes

 pairs

Objective

- Follow directions for an investigation to examine and differentiate instincts and learned behaviors

Inquiry Skills

- Compare
- Classify/Order
- Communicate

Observation	Learned: brushing teeth, talking, singing, drinking from a cup, playing football Instinctive: sleeping, waking up, crying, laughing, migrating Both: walking
Conclusion	Some behaviors are learned, some are instinctive, and some are both.

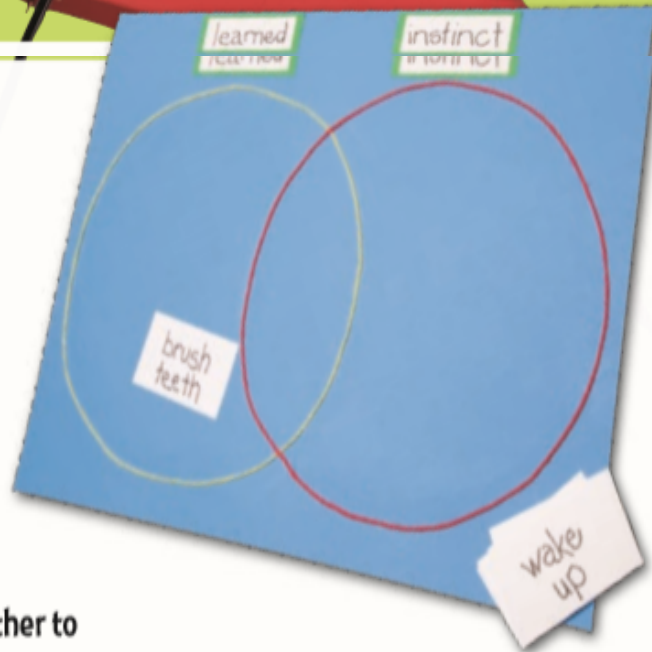
Instinct or Learned Behavior?

Materials

- 10 self-stick notes or index cards
- pencil
- 2 pieces of string, each 36 inches long

Follow This Procedure

- 1 Write "wake up" on one card or note. Write "brush teeth" on another.
- 2 Tie the ends of each piece of string together to make two circles. Lay the string circles on a table to form a Venn diagram. The two circles should overlap. Label one *Learned* and the other *Instinct*.
- 3 With a partner, decide which circle to place "wake up" and "brush teeth" in: *Learned* or *Instinct*.
- 4 Work with your partner to think of eight more things you do every day. Write them on the cards and place them in the appropriate sections. Try to find behaviors for all three sections. Behaviors in the overlap section will be a combination of learned and instinct.



Analyze Your Results

- 5 What problems did you and your partner have grouping the behaviors?
- 6 Choose one animal. Does this animal have any of the same behaviors in your diagram? Why or why not? For this animal, is this behavior learned or instinctive?
- 7 Compare your diagram with that of another student pair. How are the diagrams alike? How are they different?