Behavior vs. Training

What is behavior? Behavior is the natural actions of an animal. An animal's behavior may be energetic or mellow. Maybe they like to dig, bark at falling leaves, or chase bugs. But sometimes an animal's behavior is something they have learned to do through instruction. This is called training.

What is training? Training is the actions an animal has been taught to do. An animal may have been taught to walk on leash, do tricks, or stay calm while the mail person is in the yard. Training can also include what an animal has been taught NOT to do-not to beg, not to bark at the door, not to potty inside the house.

Below are examples of behavior and training. Read through each example and circle whether you think the animal's action is natural behavior or has been taught through training.

Molly likes to hide toys under the bed.	Behavior	Training
Jack knows "sit" and "stay".	Behavior	Training
Buttercup growls when someone touches her food bowl.	Behavior	Training
Feisty bites when she is pet.	Behavior	Training
Akaia knows to pee outside.	Behavior	Training

Now it's your turn! In the first box, draw an animal showing a behavior, something natural they do. Then in the second box, draw an animal showing an action that they were trained to do. Be sure to include a few sentences that describe each drawing.

Behavior		
Training		