
Feeding Behaviors of the Dog, Cat, and Betta Fish

— Kayla Fenn —

Introduction

What Species Were Observed?

- ❖ Dog, Cat, Betta Fish

What Behavior Was Observed?

- ❖ Feeding

What Was Recorded?

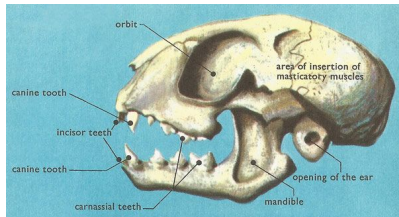
- ❖ Complete ethogram of each species, and comparison of feeding behavior

Dog Feeding Ethogram	
Behavior	Description
Chewing	Dogs jaw is opening and closing to crunch or chew food already in the mouth
Grabbing food/ Prehension	Dog has muzzle in bowl and is moving head slightly forward with mouth open and closes teeth to enclose food in mouth or uses tongue to lick food
	and bring into mouth
Swallowing	Dogs head is up and neck muscles flex as dog swallows with slight movement of head as swallowing occurs
Surveying	Dog is not focused on food bowl but is looking away from food
Licking nose	Tongue leaves the dogs mouth and grazes nose or muzzle area

Literature Review



	Dog	Cat	Fish
Type	Scavenger	Carnivore	Carnivore
Nutrition	Carbs, proteins, fat	No carb enzyme	Short digestive tract- can't absorb carbs well
Common Behaviors	Fast eating, large amounts	Frequent eating, small amounts	Opportunistic eating



Methods

Canine Subject

Gender: Female

Age: 4 years

Breed: Goldendoodle

Weight: 60 lbs

BCS: 3- Ideal, healthy



Willow

Methods

Feline Subject

Gender: Male

Age: 7 years

Breed: Russian Blue mix

Weight: 14 lbs

BCS: 3- Ideal, healthy



Buddy

Methods

Piscine Subject

Gender: Male

Age: Adult

Breed: Veiltail

Length: 1.5 inches



CAMELOT

Methods



Feeding Method	Dog	Cat	Betta Fish
Time of day	3:00pm	6:00pm	9:00pm
Temperature	78 F (Outdoor)	73 F (Indoor)	76 F (In tank)
Feed Type	Kirkland Adult Dog	Meow Mix	TetraBetta Pellets
Feed Amount	2 cups	Ad libitum	One Pellet
Feed Container	Slow-Feed Bowl	Metal Bowl	Water Surface



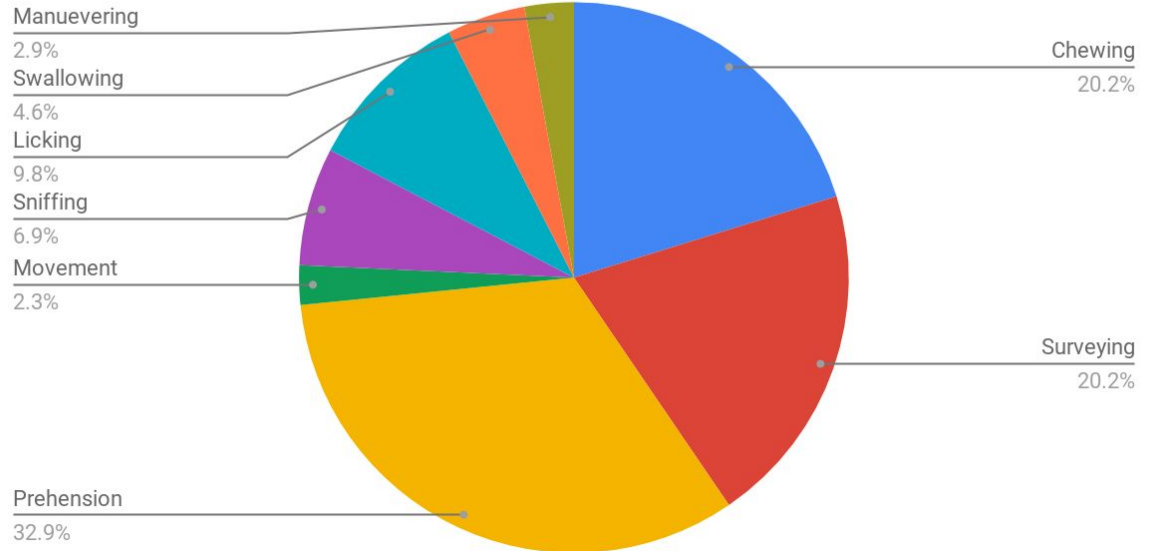
Results- Dog

Total Feeding Time: **1 min and 40 sec**

Percent of time feeding
(prehension, chewing,
swallowing): **58%**

Frequency of Canine Feeding Behaviors

Percent of Feeding Time Behavior Was Displayed



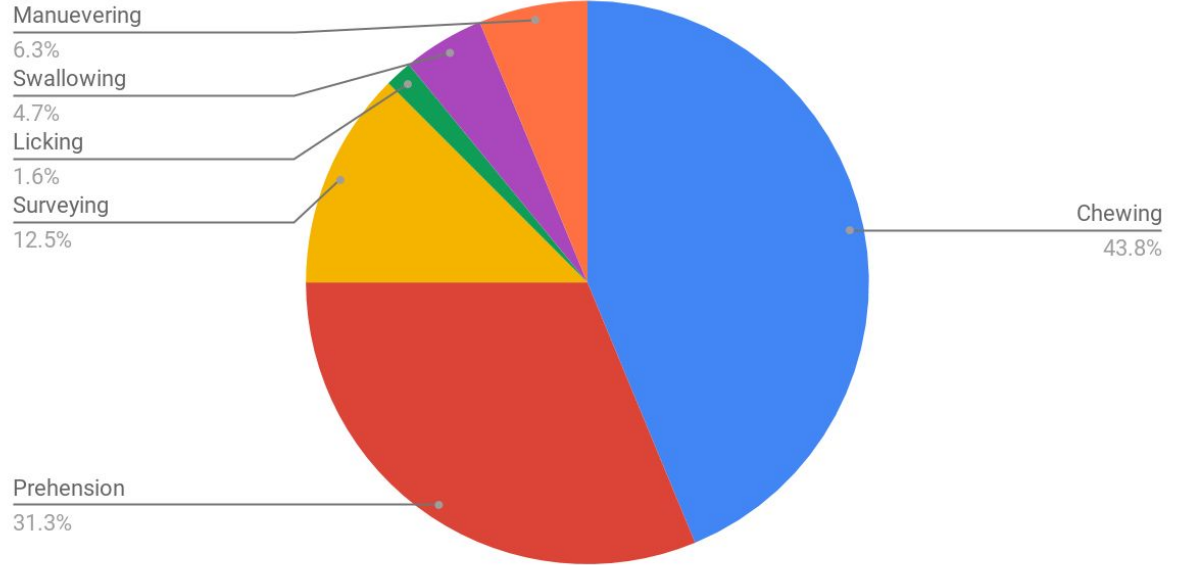
Results- Cat

Total Feeding Time: **50 sec**

Percent of time feeding (prehension, chewing, swallowing): **80%**

Frequency of Feline Feeding Behaviors

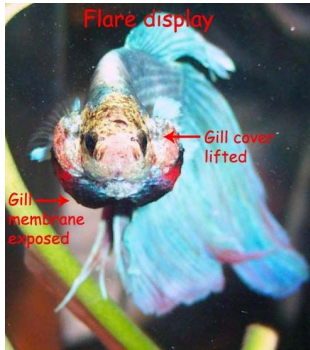
Percent of Feeding Time Behavior Was Displayed



Results- Fish

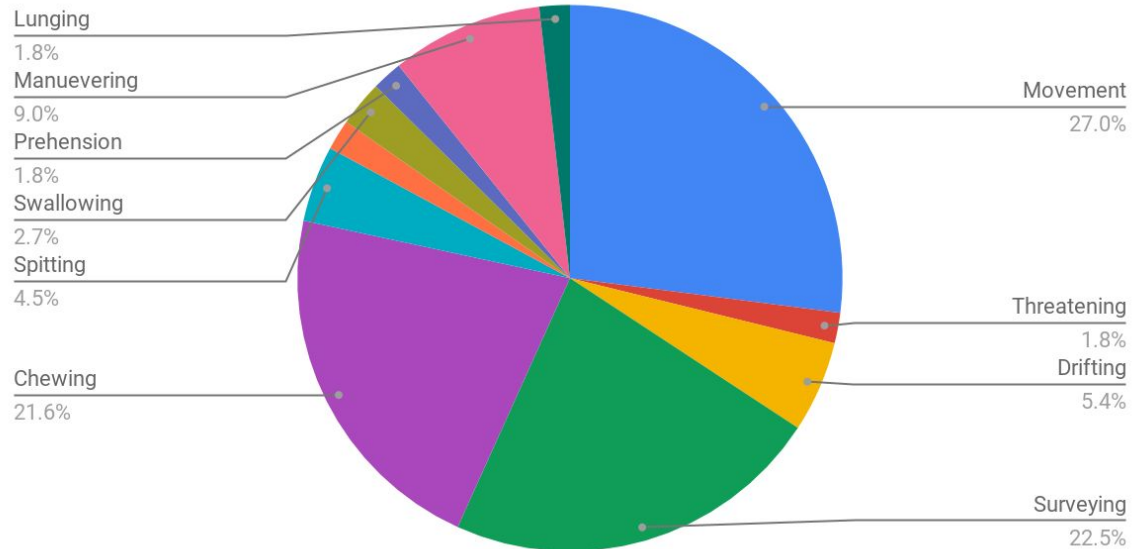
Total Feeding Time: **2 min**

Percent of time feeding
(prehension, chewing,
swallowing):**26%**



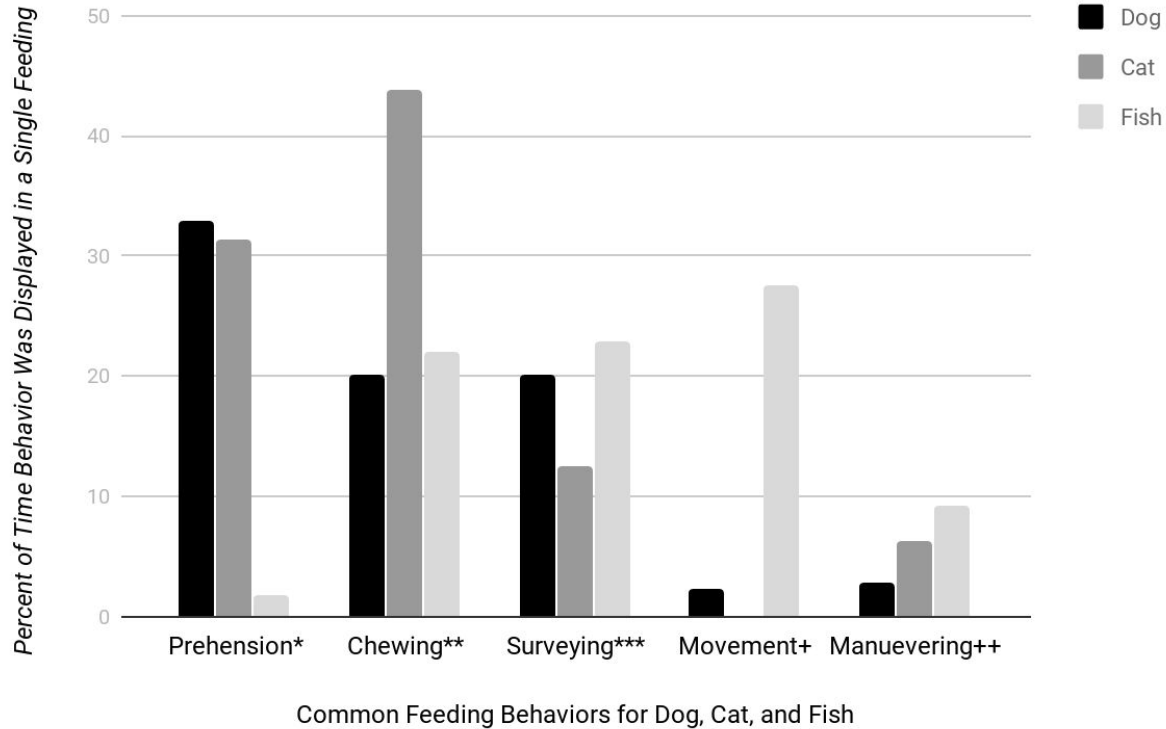
Frequency of Piscine Feeding Behaviors

Percent of Feeding Time Behavior Was Displayed



Results

Comparison of Frequency of Common Feeding Behaviors of Dog, cat and Fish



Conclusion/Interpretation

Dog ate really fast, and eats large amounts

Cat eats several times during day

Fish spent much more time eating (prehension, chewing, swallowing)

Surveying was observed in all three species

More movement in the fish

Literature: Passed from wolves

Literature: Wild cats survive off small kills

Literature: Pellets are often too hard

Literature: Protection of food from competitors

Personal Hypothesis: Due to more fluid environment

Sources

<https://academic.oup.com/jn/article/136/7/1927S/4664714>

<https://www.physiology.org/doi/pdf/10.1152/ajplegacy.1970.219.5.1380>

<https://www.physiology.org/doi/pdf/10.1152/ajplegacy.1970.219.1.170>

https://ac.els-cdn.com/0006899374909962/1-s2.0-0006899374909962-main.pdf?_tid=12ef59b9-ea9c-42b3-adb3-a4e9b719e590&acdnat=1523906531_779aad72042f932661c5bdb319692f38

http://cmsadmin.atp.co.il/Content_siamb/editor/56_2_james.pdf

<https://www.liebertpub.com/doi/pdf/10.1089/zeb.2008.0551>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0066185668800019>

<https://bettafish.org/care/food-feeding/>

<http://psycnet.apa.org/record/1975-20716-001>

<https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/pdf/10.1146/annurev.nu.04.070184.002513>

http://scienceasia.org/2009.35.n1/scias35_8.pdf

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/003456878590125>