

2023 Workshops



Level 2

Animal Assisted Play Therapy: Relationships & Applications

created by

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Level 2 Workshop Package
2 Online Courses and a 4-day In-person Workshop



The International Institute for Animal Assisted Play Therapy® is the only authorized provider of workshops on Animal Assisted Play Therapy™ in the world.

Dates/Locations

Specific, dates, locations, and contact information is in the chart on the website at

<https://iaapt.org/training>. It is under the Level 2 tab:

<https://iaapt.org/training/animal-assisted-play-therapy-applications-with-your-dog-level-2/>



Who Should Attend

This training program is designed for play therapists, psychologists, social workers, counselors, psychiatrists, family therapists, school counselors, and other experienced mental health, medical, allied health, and educational professionals. The training is relevant to a wide range of clinical, developmental, and educational problems for clients throughout the lifespan. Canine and equine professionals interested in the topic are also welcome to attend. This is an advanced-level training. *All must have completed the AAPT Level 1 training and 8 supervision sessions prior to attending the Level 2!*

Description

This workshop offers a second-level, more advanced training in Animal Assisted Play Therapy®. Dog interactive sessions with your own dog will occur in segments throughout the workshop, with resting periods for the dogs at other times. Lectures, videos, discussions, and planning sessions will occur between the dog training segments. Equine components are included as well. Role-plays of play sessions will include your own dogs or a demo dog, as well as some options with horses.

Participants will build on their dog handling skills relevant to therapy work, as well as learn how to (a) develop a strong and mutual relationship with their dogs, (b) train their dogs for play therapy work using positive methods, (c) plan, train, and implement a variety of dog tricks or games for play therapy, (d) facilitate nondirective and directive play therapy sessions with dogs and/or horses, (e) debrief groups or families after AAPT activities, (f) develop effective risk-management policies, (g) read and react to canine and equine signaling as it occurs during play sessions, (h) link AAPT interventions with therapeutic goals, (i) promote the use of AAPT, and (j) resolve common difficulties in the professional practice of AAPT. The workshop will also provide ample opportunity for participants to discuss their progress and obstacles in the use of AAPT to date and to resolve common problems. This workshop is designed to be flexible, with the needs of participants in mind. Please let your needs be known so that we can plan workshop time around them!!

This course has limited enrollment for people and their dogs. "Loaner" dogs are available for those unable to travel with their own. Upon registration, a listing of resource materials will be suggested for preparation, plus information about the prerequisites. Dogs must meet the requirements below. If there are questions about this, please contact Dr. VanFleet via email at info@iaapt.org.



Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to...

- List and identify in real time at least 10 different canine body language signals that suggest stress in a dog.
- Explain and demonstrate the 3 levels of observation required to interpret animal body language as accurately as possible.
- Describe at least 3 activities one can perform with a dog to identify personality features that are relevant to selection of dogs for Animal Assisted Play Therapy™ (AAPT).
- Explain the primary reason why high arousal coupled with poor recovery is likely to make an animal unsuitable for AAPT.
- Describe at least 3 activities or interactions a therapist can do to build a stronger relationship and working alliance with a dog.
- Identify the primary 4-6 steps involved in teaching an animal a new behavior using shaping.
- Describe 2 actions a therapist can take immediately during a session if they see a dog with whale eye, hackles up, tail high and wagging tightly, mouth closed, and with a stance leaning toward the client.
- Describe two ear positions on a horse and what they likely mean in terms of the animal's emotional state.
- Describe how to use the 3-second rule (consent testing) during a session to help a client build a healthy, respectful relationship with the therapy animal.
- Explain what is meant about being proactive with a therapy animal and give 2 reasons why that is important for animal welfare and risk management during therapy.
- Describe and conduct at least 3 new AAPT-relevant interventions with an animal.
- Explain a 3-step process for developing new interventions in AAPT that are relevant to client goals.
- Describe what is meant by "split-attention" in AAPT and how the therapist develops this skill.
- Describe 2 reasons why countertransference is particularly relevant in AAPT.
- Describe at least 3 items needed within risk-management policies for an AAPT program.
- Describe at least 2 different ways a therapist might facilitate and process client material during AAPT.
- Describe the full debriefing process used with families and groups in AAPT.
- List at least 5 different dynamic issues that therapists might discuss during a debriefing with a group or family after an AAPT session.

- Describe 2 options a therapist has if a client tries to harm an animal during an AAPT session.
- Write treatment goals that clearly show the link between the AAPT intervention selected and the client's needs.
- Describe and conduct an AAPT session that is relatively unstructured and one that is highly structured.
- Explain the importance of all the demonstrated competencies required for AAPT certification.
- Explain at least 2 ways a therapist can establish a safe zone for an animal involved in AAPT where the client is not permitted to go if the animal goes there.
- Give a definition of "scope of practice" as it relates to AAPT, and provide 2 reasons why it is very important.
- Explain 1 way in which the voluntary participation of animals in AAPT has clinical significance for the clients.
- Describe what is meant by animal agency and give 2 reasons why it is important – 1 reason for the animal and 1 reason for the client.

Prerequisites - Human & Dog!

Participants must first have attended the [four-day Animal Assisted Play Therapy Level 1 Training](#) and have completed two [online courses](#) – (1) [Essentials of Canine Behavior & Training](#) and (2) [AAPT Ethics & Animal Welfare](#) (included in fees, although purchase of the textbooks is separate. Access to online courses provided after registration.). You will need the book [Animal Assisted Play Therapy](#) (VanFleet & Faa-Thompson, 2017, Professional Resource Press) which you should have read in full for the Level 1. For this course, you will re-read selected portions of the same book. [Please note that approximately 8 supervision sessions must be completed prior to attendance at the Level 2 as well, and at least 4 short session videos should have been shown during this supervision!](#)

Summary:

1. Completion of Level 1
2. ~8 AAPT supervision sessions including 4 video segments shown
2. Essentials of Canine Behavior & Training online course (completed 3 weeks prior)
3. AAPT Ethics & Animal Welfare online course (completed 3 weeks prior)

Dogs must be trained with positive, dog-friendly methods and be well-behaved, non-reactive around other dogs, and socialized well with a variety of people, dogs, and situations. Completion of the CGC or C.L.A.S.S. or similar "good behavior" credential encouraged but **not** required. Please discuss any questions or problems with Dr. VanFleet at the time you register. You will be asked to complete a checklist of dog behavior and submit videos of your dog.

Special Needs

We are committed to making workshops accessible to everyone. Please contact us if you have special needs as early in the process as possible. Workshops are generally held in a country environment with contact with dogs, horses, and other animals.

Schedule

The training runs daily from **9:00 am to 5:45 pm**, with a slightly earlier dismissal on the last day. There are 28 actual training hours, and the online courses provide 16 CE credits/clock hours, for a total of 44 hours for the entire program.

Continuing Education

The Family Enhancement & Play Therapy Center is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The FEAPT Center maintains responsibility for this program and its contents. The Family Enhancement & Play Therapy Center is an NBCC-Approved Continuing Education Provider (5732) and may offer NBCC-approved clock hours for events that meet NBCC requirements. The FEAPT Center solely is responsible for all aspects of the program. It is also an Association for Play Therapy (APT) Approved Provider 95-014. This program has been approved by a number of state social work boards (please contact us for this info). 44 continuing education credits/clock hours will be awarded to participants who attend the entire training (28 for the 4-day live training and 16 for the online courses). Partial credit cannot be given. No exceptions can be made to this policy.



Dress

The training will involve work with dogs and horses in a rural environment, including outdoors. Please dress comfortably with this in mind. Rain gear and footwear for muddy areas are also advised. Closed-toed shoes are mandatory for the equine segments. Dog equipment/harnesses should conform with the types covered in Level 1.



Fees & Cancellation - Discounted Package

Package includes registration fees for 44 educational hours: 2 online courses (16 total CE credits) and the 4-day live AAPT Level 2 workshop (28 CE credits). 2 textbooks for the online courses are separate. All amounts are listed in U.S. dollars. Currency conversions are made automatically when you register. We regret that installment payments are not possible.

Early Bird Fee: \$1365 (fully paid 3 months prior)

Regular Fee: \$1535 (paid within 3 months of workshop start)

**GREAT PRICE for 44 hours
of top-notch training!**

Please note:

> *During the COVID-19 pandemic or other public health emergencies or disasters, offerings of this workshop will be conducted (or rescheduled) in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and other country, state, or local public health or emergency management guidelines and restrictions.*

> *Because some participants are likely to have auto-immune issues, we will adopt practices that protect them fully. This can include social distancing, masking, and/or showing proof of vaccinations or current test results.*

> *Please stay in touch with your instructors for more information.*



Cancellation Policy:

Registrations are accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. Fees include 4 days of training, PowerPoint handout, 2 online courses, morning and afternoon snacks and beverages. Lunches/dinners are on your own.

\$300 is nonrefundable. Written cancellations received 3 months prior to the start of the workshop will receive a full refund of the balance of the fees. Cancellations after the 3-month point will forfeit a total of \$485, with the remainder being refunded. This strict policy is necessary due to the limited seating in this workshop.

We regret that NO refunds can be given in the final month preceding the workshop. When someone from the waiting list can substitute, credit toward future trainings may be given. [Failure to complete the prerequisites is considered a cancellation in the final month.] **We urge you to consider purchasing insurance to protect against unforeseen events.**

During the pandemic period or other public health or disaster emergencies, rescheduling might become necessary depending on CDC recommendations, as well as country, state, or local public health/emergency management recommendations and restrictions designed to ensure participant health and well-being. In that case, the cancellation policy above will apply to the rescheduled dates.

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In the very unlikely event that the workshop is cancelled entirely by the IIAAPT or its assigns (those hosting it), the International Institute for AAPT (or its assigns if they cancel it) will provide a full refund of the registration fees minus the costs of any materials or portions of the workshop already provided. Participants will be responsible for their own travel fees, another reason to consider purchasing travel insurance.



Conflict of Interest and Commercial Support Statement

The Family Enhancement & Play Therapy Center/IIAAPT organization and the instructors have no conflicts of interest in offering this program, no is there any commercial support. All fees, including for the additional prerequisite materials, some of which are authored by the instructors, are listed above in the sections on prerequisites and registration fees.



Presentation of This Training



Dr. Risë VanFleet is the primary presenter for this workshop. When possible, she is joined by Tracie Faa-Thompson or other Certified Animal Assisted Play Instructors as co-leaders.

Risë VanFleet, PhD, RPT-S, CDBC, CAEBI

Currently the Level 2 workshop is taught by AAPT co-founder Dr. Risë VanFleet, sometimes with the help of AAPT Co-creator Tracie Faa-Thompson and/or other highly experienced AAPT Instructors and/or animal specialists. She is credentialed in psychology, play therapy, and two different certifications in animal ethology and behavior and has nearly 50 years of experience. Her full bio and that of Tracie can be found in the *AAPT Directory* under *Certified AAPT Professionals* in the *Co-Founders* section at www.iaapt.org.



Currently Scheduled Level 2 Workshops!

To see the currently available Level 1 workshops, please visit the **Training** section of www.iaapt.org or use the link below:

<https://iaapt.org/training/animal-assisted-play-therapy-applications-with-your-dog-level-2/>



Registration: Level 2 AAPT Workshop

Register early as this workshop often sells out quickly!

Questions? Please contact Dr. VanFleet at info@iaapt.org

To register securely online:

For all Level 2 trainings: www.risevanfleet.com/shop/product-category/training/ or via www.iaapt.org (in the Store).



Thank you!

