

# How Chimps and Humans Learn

Training is teaching. The type of training used at Chimp Haven is called Positive Reinforcement Training (or PRT). PRT uses praise and rewards to make training a good experience for the chimps! A physical cue is given to a chimp when they are asked to do a behavior. For example, if a caregiver wants the chimp to show their hand, the caregiver will hold out their own hand while saying “hand.”

Each chimp is unique and training takes patience and communication! With lots of practice and praise, the chimp recognizes their training cues. Trainers get creative as they work with different chimp personalities. Sheena is a deaf chimp, so instead of a click, trainers give her a thumbs up when she successfully completes a behavior!

Think about how you learn to do different things. For example, **when you learned how to tie your shoes who taught you and how? Did they show you with their hands? Talk you through it?** Chimps are unique because while they understand different cues they cannot communicate with words.



# Communication Activity

Imagine you are a chimpanzee and you are angry. How can you show how you are feeling without using words? Think about your eyes, the way you stand, and even the face you make.

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Imagine you are a chimpanzee and you want a caregiver to look at your foot. How can you get them to look at your foot without using your words?

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Imagine you are a chimpanzee and you are excited. How can you show how you are feeling without using words?

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