

## Core Skills Analysis

### Science - Animal Behavior and Biology

- Jazmyn observed the physical interactions and social behavior of dogs, gaining insights into canine communication such as play signals, body language, and social bonding.
- She likely noticed different breeds and sizes of dogs, which can introduce concepts of diversity within a species and adaptation.
- Through watching the dogs' playful activity, Jazmyn may have begun to understand basic principles of animal needs like exercise, socialization, and environmental stimulation.
- This observational activity provides a foundation for exploring broader biological themes such as animal instincts, species-specific behaviors, and the importance of movement for health.

### Personal Development - Observation and Mindfulness

- Jazmyn practiced focused attention and patience by quietly observing the dogs without direct interaction.
- She developed mindfulness skills, tuning into subtle movements and emotions of the animals, which enhances empathy and awareness.
- This activity likely supported Jazmyn's curiosity and reflective thinking, encouraging her to ask questions about why dogs behave in certain ways.
- By spending time in a calm, observational mindset, Jazmyn strengthened her ability to notice details and patterns in natural behaviors.

### Tips

To deepen Jazmyn's understanding, encourage her to document her observations by keeping an animal behavior journal, noting different play styles and interactions. She could research specific breeds she watched to learn about breed traits and history, connecting her observations to scientific facts. Arranging a visit to a local animal shelter or dog park to observe more varied dog behaviors will provide real-world experience. Additionally, discussing why animals play and how it contributes to their development fosters a wider appreciation of animal well-being and the role of play in nature.

### Book Recommendations

- [Inside of a Dog: What Dogs See, Smell, and Know](#) by Alexandra Horowitz: An engaging exploration of how dogs perceive the world, blending science with insightful observations.
- [How Dogs Think: Understanding the Canine Mind](#) by Stanley Coren: A scientific yet accessible look into dog cognition, behavior, and intelligence.
- [The Secret Life of Dogs](#) by Elizabeth Marshall Thomas: A fascinating narrative about the instincts and social behaviors of domestic dogs.

### Learning Standards

- ACSSU043 - Science Understanding: Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment.
- ACSBL006 - Science Inquiry Skills: Pose and respond to questions, and make predictions about familiar objects and events.
- ACELY1743 - Literacy: Use comprehension strategies to interpret and analyze information and integrate new knowledge from a variety of sources.

### Try This Next

- Create a worksheet for Jazmyn to record behaviors she notices such as tail wagging, barking, or play invitations, with space to hypothesize reasons behind each behavior.
- Design a quiz to identify dog body language cues and what they signify (e.g., relaxed, alert, or

playful).

### **Growth Beyond Academics**

This activity reflects Jazmyn's patience and curiosity, highlighting her ability to engage in quiet observation and empathy toward animals. It may also support developing calmness and attentiveness, valuable traits for both academic learning and social interactions.