

'Tell-Tail' Signs · Normal dog greeting: Sniffing, tail wagging, partially raised hackles that say, 'I am a little

around in a pack.

Ms. Anderson says.

mirror that behavior."

Has your dog ever played with dogs over 15 pounds? Has your dog ever played with dogs under 15 pounds?

 Aggression/dominance: Growling, completely raised hackles, chest sticking out, tail up,

snapping at other dogs Offensive: Barking aggressively, rolling and jumping on other dogs, ears that are 'up and alert' Fearful: Tail between legs, urinating frequently, crawling on belly · Stress signs: Hiding in corner, whining, drooling, shaking, pacing WSJ Reporting

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Many day cares allow dogs that appear to be too timid or nervous during the evaluation period to come back once or twice to see if

they fare any better. Some centers

cares or dog parks, where they can interact in smaller groups in order to get used to hanging

day care.

The owners' personality has a lot to do with a dog's behavior, day-care owners say.

"If the owner encourages them to interact with other dogs, they are going to be social," says Ms. Ganahl of Camp Bow Wow. "If the owners themselves are holed up or nervous, the dogs will

recommend that the dogs try smaller day

Christine Anderson, owner of Wag the Dog,

another Portland, Ore., day care, believes in

can get three timeouts—a three-minute period

giving "bad dogs" some leeway. Each dog

in which dogs are taken out of the play area and put into single kennels. "Everyone can have a bad day. Sometimes the poor behavior-like playing too rough-can be because the dog is too tired or not quite understanding what his friends want," she

says. After three strikes, they're kicked out of

"Outside training can help, but aggression is something that can be managed, not cured,"

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