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I definitely think animals have feelings. There are many ways that animals can show you what they are feeling. I have noticed animal feelings through my experience with dogs and cats.

I have two dogs. They are Anatolian Shepherds. My girl dog named Shelby loves kids. If she licks you then gives you a pinch with her teeth, it means that she loves you. Dogs have the same feelings as humans do. Say if they wag their tail and lick you, it means they are happy. Plus if they chase you and play a game, it means they are having fun.

I once had two cats. They loved to play. One day my brother, Zach, and I were dancing with one of our cats. Suddenly our cat started meowing. We had a feeling that she was hungry. After we fed her, she started purring and leaning against our legs. She was trying to tell us that she was content.

Animals can also show their sense of fear. A dog that is afraid will frequently bark at strange noises or unfamiliar people. A cat will show its fear by hissing, sticking its nails out, and sometimes its hair will stand straight up on its back.

One summer, my grandparents came to visit from their Nebraska farm. At that time, their local farm cat had just had a large litter of kittens. My grandfather remembers hearing a whole lot of meowing going on as he was packing up his car to leave for their Texas visit. About five hours into the drive, he stopped at a gas station in Oklahoma to refuel the car. As he was filling up the car with gas, he heard a loud and distressed meowing. He searched around the car, under the car, and even in the car to find the source of crying. Finally, my grandfather lifted the hood of the car and found a tiny, frightened, and trembling seven-week-old kitten standing on the car battery. My grandparents were amazed that the dear thing had not fallen into the nearby fan belt and died. My grandfather quickly grabbed the poor shaking creature and placed her in the trunk. Once they arrived in Texas, they opened the trunk back up and took out the scared little kitten. Over the

next several days, my brother and I quickly learned to care for a newborn kitten. We fed her warm milk, stroked her soft fur, and held her tenderly. It was not long before the wild Nebraska farm cat became a tamed and loving member of our family.

It was through this memorable experience that I came to learn about the many feelings of an animal. I was able to see how a born in the wild and once frightened baby could be changed into a loving and cherished family pet that gave back loads of love in return.