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|  | DAILY LOG  day 1: met with dogs, daisy and toby. very energtic. took a while to get started. not much completed. it didn't take long too long for the dogs to get well acquainted with me. they're very  friendly.    day 2: tried to start training the dogs right when i got there...but they weren't really cooperating. they wanted to just play around. i'm guessing they're just glad that there's someone who's giving them the attention. i didn't get far with them today either... but i did get them recognized with the tennis ball, or i hope they're able to recognize the ball tomorrow.    day 3: it may have been the fact that i didn't see them yesterday.... but they didn't seem to recognize the tennis ball at all. i don't know for sure if they would have recognized the ball the following day, but they were more interested in being petted and held.     day 4: things were not going the way that i wanted, so i decided to take a little more control. i re-introduced the tennis ball to the dogs. when i threw the ball away from me, toby would go after the ball. daisy would look in that direction, but not make an attempt.maybe it has to do with the fact that she's smaller than toby and doesn't want to fight for the ball. or she would rather be held or pet by a person. toby was the only one who actually participated with me in fetching the ball.     day 5: i put toby inside the house, while i worked with daisy first. i decided to work with them individually because i thought it would be easier to handle one dog at a time. this would also take out the distraction that they give on each other. working with one dog at time did make it easier to try to train them. while working with daisy, i found her less active than toby, so it was easier to try to get her to do what i wanted her to do. but it didn't seem to interest her to go after balls. she was more interested in just laying in my lap. toby on the other hand is more active, and was very energtic. the only problem that i ran into was that toby seemed more interested in just fetching the object no matter what it was.     day 6: i first decided to work with toby. i laid out the tennis ball and made sure that he took a good sniff at the ball. afterwards, i put toby inside the house and i hid the ball behind a chair in the back. i brought toby out of the house and put him on the ground. I had him smell another tennis ball that i had in my hand, and asked him to go find the ball as i hid the ball i had in my pocket. at first he didn't move at all, and just looked at me. after a couple minutes, i took the ball i had out and pretended to throw it, but he only jerked but did not move. i tried this for about an hour, but did not get anywhere....      day 7: met with the golden retriever today, sunny. she was very friendly. got to know me quickly. it didnt' take long for me to start. i first took out a tennis ball and threw it. she went after it. i took another tennis ball that was sprayed with a air freshner smell to it. I threw this tennis ball and she again went after it. i repeated this several times with the two different tennis balls.  the ball didn't seem to matter to her. it was an object that she just went after.       day 8: i re-introduced the regular tennis ball to her. once i made sure she had a good smell to the ball, i put her behind the gate, hid the tennis ball under the trampoline, and brought her out, and had her sniff a tennis ball that i had in my hand. after i hid it, i told her to "go get the ball". she went out towards the yard, but came back minutes later with no ball. i repeated this step for another 2 hours, but she still came up with no ball.      day 9: i did the same thing i did with her yesterday. after an hour of trying to get her to bring me back the tennis ball, she came back with a ball, but it was another ball that was previously in the yard. i gave her a treat for bringing me back that ball, even though it wasn't the ball that i wanted her to bring back. hoping that this would trigger something, i repeated the experiment, but she still came back empty handed.       day 10: the first thing i did was to throw the tennis ball out in the yard. she ran after it and brought it back. when she brought it back, i gave her a threat. i repeated this a couple time, and each time she brought back the right ball, i gave her a threat. i then had her sniff the smell of the tennis ball. after she had sniffed it, i hid the tennis ball in the yard, while she was locked behind a gate. once i opened it, i gave her a look at another tennis ball, and after i hid it, i told her to "go get it" at first she just looked at me, but when she wouldn't move, i brought out the cookie treat that i had been giving her. once she saw that, she was very excited. i wouldn't give it to her, and showed her the tennis ball again. but she still wouldn't go get the ball. i tried for an hour on this, and when she didn't move at all, i just threw the ball i had in my hand and when she came back with it, she got a treat. but she wouldn't go and fetch the hidden ball on her own.       day 11: still fetching the ball only if thrown, but not when told to go look for it.       day 12: brought back items, but some weren't the tennis ball that i was out there. after she had brought all the items in the yard, she finally brought the tennis ball. i gave her a whole handfull of treats, and pet her behind the ears, trying to tell her that that was what i wanted. when i tried repeating the step, she would go to the same spot that i hid the tennis ball the last time. but when that didnt work, she went through the same method that she did before.       day 13: she went through the same thing that she did yesterday. seeing some type of pattern here.       day 14: went back to toby and daisy. tried to get them to find the tennis ball that smelt like air freshner, but they couldn't move at all. they would just look at me and toby would be the only one going after the ball when thrown.       day 15: only fetching ball when thrown, but not when told to go look for it.       day 16: put the two different tennis balls out there, the regular smelling one, and the air freshener one. once they were hid, i had sunny smell the regular smelling tennis ball, and then told her to go get it. at first she didn't move. so threw the ball. then she went to go get back. brought it back. gave her a threat for that. once she came back. i had her sniff the ball again and pretended to throw the ball out. she went looking for it. and minutes came back with the other matching ball. |  |