

Seal Training

Did you hear about the guy that went to the circus to see the trained seal? He paid five dollars and took a seat in the bleachers. A trainer came out with a seal. The seal just sat there. The trainer looked at the seal and shook his head.

Pretty soon the guy that paid his money said, "Hey, why doesn't that seal do any tricks?" The trainer said, "I don't know—I trained him."

"He doesn't look trained to me," grunted the customer.

"I can prove I trained him. Look here. I've got this seal's signature on a sign-in sheet. I trained all his buddies, too. They're all trained."

Do you think this ever happens with people? We sit in a room. We talk. We watch a video.

The trouble with training is the illusion that is has occurred.

Both the trainer and the one being trained are responsible for the success or failure of the training program. Both need to be fully engaged in the process.

In the story above, was the seal trained? Some would say "yes". Some would say "no".

What do you say? How do you know?

What would it take to work Safely—Or Not At All?

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