



Holistic Behavior Solutions, LLC

Natural News

IN THE NEWS...

DOGS HELPING CHILDREN

Reading with Rover is a non-profit organization based in the Northwest United States. Dogs certified as therapy dogs through the [Delta Society](#) are brought into schools, libraries, and book stores to help children with reading difficulties. The uncanny ability of dogs to be non-judgmental gives children the confidence they need to read out loud even if it is not their best strength. According to Reading with Rover's website, children between 7 and 12 years of age who are reading below grade level, have low self-esteem, and are at-risk youth are pre-selected for this program. After being enrolled in this program, teachers have noticed students with improved self-confidence, involvement in other school activities, a greater respect for animals, and students who are now volunteering to read out loud in class. To learn more about Reading with Rover, please visit www.readingwithrover.org. Programs like Reading with Rover can be found throughout the United States. [Bideawee's Reading to Dogs Program](#) is a New York-based organization that touches nearly 500 students in 9 schools and 17 libraries.

In 2006, CBS *The Early Show*, did a piece on Reading Education Assistance Dogs. According to Dr. Debbye Turner, resident veterinarian, 40 percent of the United States fourth graders read below grade level.

We all know how adorably our dogs can look at us as if we are the most important person in the world, and maybe to them we are. Imagine being a child who is having difficulty reading and perhaps he or she has been teased in the past by their peers. Now put a lovable dog in front of the child who will sit their patiently while the child sounds out his words and gives kisses as extra reinforcement for a job well done. What could be better.

4 Paws for Ability was the first and is the largest organization in the United States to train and match service dogs to children with autism. They also train mobility service dogs, seizure service dogs, fetal alcohol syndrome disorder service dogs, multi-purpose service dogs, veteran service dogs and service dogs for the hearing impaired.

While the autism spectrum is vast, many children suffer from similarities such as having trouble making connections with people. Many shy away from hugs & kisses, some will not sleep in their beds by themselves, while others want to be left alone completely. Some will inflict injury on themselves or others in the family out of frustration and anger. Many children have the ability to "disappear" in the blink of an eye. Parents must install multiple locks on all doors and windows just to get a couple hours sleep. A trip to the mall can turn into a disaster.

In comes the service dog and family life can change considerably for the better. Testimonials on 4 Paws for Ability's website include children who once refused to give their parents a hug learned how to hug by showing affection to the dog which then transpired to their parents and siblings. Children started sleeping in their own bed with the company of their service dog. Kids who once wondered when in public are now proudly holding a leash attached to their service dog.



Not only do these dogs give unconditional love and unbiased affection to children who otherwise may appear different to their human counterparts, but they are providing peace of mind to the parents. The dogs are trained to stay with the children. If a child gets up in the middle of the night. The dog would likely wake the parents and stay with the child.

Children who were once teased in school become the center of attention with their peers in the presence of the dog.

It seems that children who have never been able to form a social relationship even within their own

families are able to develop close relationships with their service dog.

Dogs are trained to respond to a specific behavior the child is engaging in, interrupt the behavior and redirect the child even if only for a few minutes.

At 4 Paws for Ability, it costs \$22,000 to train and place a service dog with a disabled child. Families engage in volunteer fundraising to receive a dog at no cost to them.

For more information about 4 Paws for Ability, donating, and volunteering, please visit their website www.4pawsforability.org.

YOUNG LIVING ESSENTIAL OILS OF THE MONTH

[Valor](#) is a grounding blend of Rosewood, Blue Tansy, Frankincense and Spruce (which helps to open and release emotional blocks). This is my FAVORITE oil. I wear it almost every day. Valor balances energies to instill courage, confidence, and self-esteem. It also is known as "chiropractor in a bottle" as it has the ability to help the body self-correct its balance and alignment. This is the perfect oil to use on dogs and people alike who need a little extra confidence. Works great on dogs who are shy and are slow to warm up to new people and environments. Valor comes in a 15 ml bottle and a convenient roll-on applicator. [Valerian](#) is a single oil that has amazing calming properties. Three decades of research have pinpointed the sesquiterpenes, valerenic acid and valerone as the active constituents that exert a calming effect on the central nervous system. It is wonderful for insomnia, restlessness, migraines, indigestion, tension, & anxiety. It can also be taken internally or applied topically to control pain.

If you are interested in ordering Valor, Valerian, or any other wonderful product from Young Living, please visit my website...

www.holisticbehaviorsolutions.younglivingworld.com.



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Sibling Rivalry

I have considered myself very lucky. For the most part, all of my dogs have always gotten along. That's not to say that a little squabble won't break out occasionally over food, but it is always easily resolved. We make sure to do our best to not create unnecessary animosity between the dogs. The dogs only receive precious raw bones when each is in its own crate. They also eat their meals in different areas as to not provoke any sort of competition over resources.

When a fight does occur between two resident dogs it can be very scary and the future may seem uncertain. If you have children in the house, this creates even more concern. Some are nothing more than minor arguments while others can be very dangerous to both the dogs and people in the house.

Dogs may engage in arguments over anything from one dog being too pushy going through the doorway to vying for the attention of their favorite person. First, the reason for the disagreement must be established and then training can begin to teach the dog that his behavior is not necessary.

If you have two dogs that fight over eating their daily meals...you can simply feed them in separate rooms which will certainly eliminate the opportunity for the fight. It will likely reduce the anxiety that one or both dogs are experiencing in anticipation of a fight so that they can both enjoy their meals in peace. If it is impossible to feed them separately and the dogs are causing bodily harm to one another, you can feed one or more dogs in a crate.

If your dogs are not trying to tear each other apart while eating...you can teach them impulse control by training each one individually to sit and wait until you release them by name to eat their food. I still would not feed them side by side, but this will make it more manageable to feed them in the same room. It is also important to teach a "leave it" command in case food drops on the floor while both dogs are present.

If you are going to share your life with more than one dog at a time it is absolutely essential that each dog knows its name and have a good recall meaning that when you say the dog's name & come, the dog responds immediately without thinking. All too often, we let our dogs get away with the response "I'll be with you in a minute" and they continue to play with their house mate. It is not up to your dog to decide when they are done playing...it is your decision and it needs to be respected.

I like to train each dog who comes into the house to target my hand. I simply hold my hand out in front of the dog and wait for the dog to tap my hand with his nose...then I click and treat. In a multi-dog household I will start to add the dog's name after a few minutes of repeated taps. Over time the dog learns when it hears its name and sees my hand held out it will automatically come running and touch its nose to my hand. This is especially helpful when you have two dogs that are engaging in play or are about to escalate it to something more and you say each of their names and they each run to their designated hands which automatically separates them and you once again regain control.

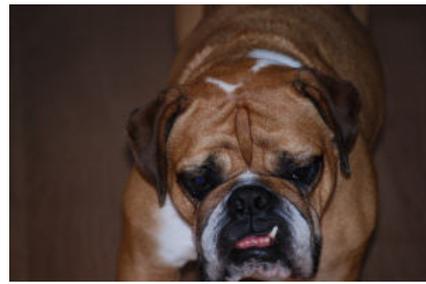
Another important aspect of impulse control is a solid sit / wait. Dogs often get into fights when racing one another through the door. If you teach your dog a sit / wait and then release each dog by name, then one dog at a time will go through the door and you eliminate the opportunity for a fight to break out.



Finally, everyone in the house must learn how to read canine body language. Some great illustrations can be found at http://www.aspc.org/pet-care/kids-and-pets/caninebody_language.pdf to dispel the myths and help you understand what your dog is trying to tell you.

Once you feel confident that you can call your dog successfully out of just about any situation, you can detect when a situation might be about to occur, and you can reduce or eliminate the anxiety your dog is experiencing, you will be on your way to a fight-free household. Don't forget that your dog can easily pick up on your stress. So while you may think you are cool as a cucumber...your dog knows better. Take a couple deep breaths and remember what you have been working on. When you exude confidence your dog will turn the leadership role over to you and you should be able to restore peace in your pack.

Available for Adoption



Zero is looking for a NEW fur-ever home. She's found herself on the outside looking in at her family, and is in search of some wonderful people who will appreciate her.

ZERO is house-trained, well-mannered and very, very sweet. She adores soft beds and toys and has so much love to give to the right family.

ZERO's adoption will be limited to the New Jersey, Southeastern PA, Delaware and Maryland area.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ADOPTING, PLEASE COMPLETE AN APPLICATION! For an application, please visit <http://www.heavensentbulldogrescue.com/application.html> Feel free to email us to let us know if you're interested in a specific dog AFTER you have completed an application. hsrescue@aol.com

Recommended Books Of the Month

Animals in Translation
By Temple Grandin

Temple Grandin is an autistic savant. She is a brilliant woman who has implemented humane standards in most of the slaughterhouses in the United States. Temple offers a unique perspective into the lives of animals in how they view the world. While some of her theories may be controversial, she can deliver a point of view that is difficult for someone without her talent to see.

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