

# PUPPY SOCIALIZATION BINGO

## SOCIAL DISTANCING EDITION

### Don't Fret!

**Exposure & socialization is still achievable during the pandemic!**



The socialization period for puppies plays a vital role in the formation of a happy, healthy and well-adjusted dog. Socialization & exposure are most critical from 3-16 weeks of age; however, efforts to socialize should continue well beyond this age!

Proper exposure & socialization involves a liberal use of high-value treats (or for some dogs - attention/toys/pets may be more reinforcing). Be sure to reward your puppy for interacting with, looking at and/or approaching something new - even if your puppy doesn't appear unsure or nervous.

Not only will your puppy begin to establish a strong foundation for life-long learning but your relationship will continue to grow as well!

**Use these bingo squares to inspire creativity while socializing your puppy during these socially restrictive times!**



See someone carrying something in their hands/arms. (i.e. umbrella, grocery bags, books, etc.)	Play with a minimum of 3 different puzzle toys. (i.e. Kongs, Slowfeeders, West Paw Toppl)	Observe children playing from a distance. Reward for calm behavior.	Exposure to at least 3 new sounds through . Begin at low volume & gradually increase. (i.e. train, construction, airplane, traffic)	Hear and/or see a motorcycle.
Hear/See household appliances in use. (i.e. dishwasher, blender, washer, dryer, vacuum)	Acclimate your puppy to a harness & leash. Practice: taking the harness on/off, going for walks.	Observe different species of animals from a distance. (i.e. cats, rabbits, ducks, goose, squirrels, cattle, etc.)	Hear and/or see lawn mowing equipment in use.	Walk on at least 5 different safe & sturdy surfaces. (i.e. wood, gravel, sand, metal, concrete, linoleum)
Bath Time Start with an empty tub, then an empty tub with sink running, next introduce tub with water. Slow & steady wins the race!	Introduce your puppy to at least 10 novel objects. Get creative! (i.e. balloons, children's toys, cardboard box)	Walk, play and/or swim in (or near) water. (kiddie pools work great for at home exploration!)	Exposure to a recording of fireworks. Start at a low & controlled volume & gradually increase.	Go for a ride in the car at least once per week.
Expose to the sounds and sensations of wind & rain.	Exposure to a recording of thunderstorms. Start at a low & controlled volume & gradually increase.	Teach your puppy how to play with you! Experiment with toys to discover which are their favorite.	Practice "Isolation" Set a routine to prepare your puppy to be alone. Crates or ex-pens work great! Provide them with food puzzles or other activities to work on while they're practicing "alone time".	Introduce to a minimum of 5 novel scents. (i.e. lavender, chamomile; wear lotion, sunscreen, perfumes, that you don't normally wear)
Watch someone riding a bike, scooter or skateboard.	Try at least 5 different variations of treats. Look for different texture, flavors, etc.	Practice body handling to prep them for the vet/groomer. (i.e. feet, nails, ears, mouth, etc.)	Take your puppy for a fun-filled outing! Hit the park, a trail, outside a grocery store/pet store.	Costume Party! Capes, hats, sunglasses, facemasks, walker/cane, wigs, last years halloween costumes!