**Puppy Socialization Scavenger Hunt**



Use these ideas to give your new puppy positive experiences away from home. It is very important to socialize puppies at a very young age.

Remember always to praise the puppy for being brave and curious. Keep new experiences upbeat and positive.

* Meet a horse
* Meet a goose
* Meet a cat
* Meet a bird in a cage
* Meet a man with a beard
* Meet a man with a cowboy hat
* Meet a toddler
* Meet a person of another ethnicity
* Walk on bubble wrap
* Walk on a welcome mat
* Ride on an elevator (located in many parking garages)
* Go to a strange house where the puppy has never been before
* Get treats on the vet’s table
* Stand on a grooming table
* Stand on a grooming table in a grooming noose
* Go on a boat ride
* Go on a car ride
* Go near a bus – walk near a bus
* Walk on a grate in a sidewalk
* Go up and down stairs
* Walk on a moving surface
* Walk on a narrow board placed up off the ground
* Walk to a mailbox (BIG mailbox – not at home) and get a treat or lots of praise
* Go near helium filled balloons – give lots of praise and/or treats
* Walk in very tall grass
* Walk up to an opened umbrella
* Open an umbrella VERY slowly while puppy watches
* Walk near a small fan, then a medium fan, then a large fan
* Go to a playground or preschool area where children are squealing
* Walk puppy near a sprinkler
* Walk the puppy near a running hose with a nozzle
* Walk puppy past a fire hydrant
* Run a blender or food processor other noisy appliance with puppy nearby
* Run the vacuum cleaner with puppy nearby
* Clatter baking pans with puppy nearby
* Walk through a dry and wet wading pool
* Walk the puppy through a collapsed agility tunnel – or equivalent toy
* Walk the puppy through a ladder laid flat on the ground
* Meet a woman with a broad brimmed hat
* Meet a woman with a long flowing skirt
* Meet a person carrying suitcase
* Meet a person carrying a shopping bag
* Walk near a person in a wheelchair
* Walk the puppy around the pet store
* Walk the puppy around a hardware store (most of them allow dogs inside)
* Introduce the puppy to a beach ball
* Walk the puppy on gravel
* Walk the puppy through a mud puddle
* Run a hair dryer near the puppy – then carefully blow cool air on the puppy as if drying the puppy
* Rub a towel over puppy as if drying it after a bath
* Brush or comb the puppy
* Give the puppy a piece of ice
* Walk the puppy near a wall mirror
* Gently squeeze each of the puppies toes
* Watch a kids soccer or baseball game

