



# LET'S TALK about DOGS



Learn how to **stay SAFE** around dogs

Find out how to make **FEEDING FUN!**



Try our

**DOGTASTIC  
QUIZ!**



# Happy woofing

with Wood Green!

At Wood Green, The Animals Charity, we look after lots of different animals – including dogs. All the animals we care for need a new home and a family to love them.

We find homes for more than 3,480 homeless animals every year. And we help more than 3,500 owners keep their pets healthy and happy!

In this booklet, we give you lots of information about what dogs need and how we can all keep them healthy and happy. There are lots of puzzles and challenges for you to try too! So let's get started!

## WHAT DOGS NEED TO GET THEIR TAILS WAGGING...

If you have a dog, or you know someone who does, you will know they make great family pets. And as dogs are part of the family, we need to make sure they stay happy and healthy – just like we do for other members of our family.

Dogs need five important things to be **happy** and **healthy**. These are called their **welfare needs**.

**HOME**  
a safe place to live



**DIET**  
the right food



**COMPANIONSHIP**  
spending time with the family



**VET CARE**  
a healthy life



**NORMAL BEHAVIOUR**  
the chance to do what dogs love doing

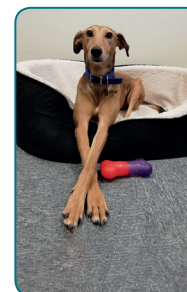


**It is the law to give dogs these five important things.**  
Without all five, a dog can become sad, lonely and even ill.

## The Big Five CHALLENGE!



Can you **MATCH** the pictures to the **five things dogs NEED**? Draw a line from each photo to its partner.



**Answers:** Vet care – dog with vet,  
Home – dog in bed in a house,  
Companionship – dog at home  
with their owner,  
Diet – dog eating scatter-fed kibble,  
Normal behaviour – dog on walk.

## How did YOU do?

You can read more about how to give dogs what they need over the page – so you can **become an expert!**



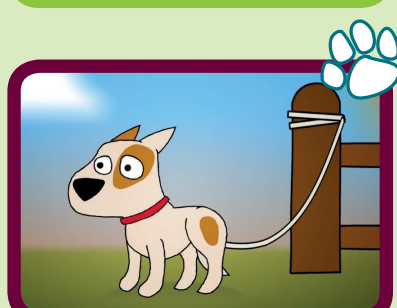
Home: a safe place to live

# SAFE SPACES



All dogs need safe spaces in their home to eat, sleep, rest and feel comfortable. These spaces also help to keep us safe too.

Can you work out which dogs in the pictures below would like some safe space and want to be left alone?



## Need for a suitable environment...

Animals need to have the right type of home, including shelter and space. They need to be able to exercise and have somewhere comfortable to rest or hide.

## DID YOU tick ALL OF THEM?

If you did, **YOU** are a **SAFE SPACE** expert, well done!



Spot the  
**Safe**  
**SPACE!**



Do you have a dog at home?

Or do you have friends with a dog?

If you do, can you work out where the dog's safe spaces are for eating and sleeping?

Once you find them, remember they are special spaces just for the dog when they are busy eating or sleeping.

Why not tell other people in the house about the spaces you find? That way everyone can keep the dog feeling comfortable and happy!

## Diet: the right food

# BIN THE BOWL!

Dogs need to eat the right food and eat the right amount for their breed and size.

There are lots of different ways you can feed your dog – you don't even need a food bowl! Dogs love to sniff, search and dig out their food, so here are a few ideas to get them doing just that:



Scatter their meal in the garden for them to find



Squelch some tinned dog food into a rubber kong toy



Sprinkle their food over newspaper, scrunch up the newspaper and hide it in a cereal box

### Need for a suitable diet...

Animals need to be given the right type and amount of food to keep them healthy. They also need fresh, clean water at all times.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Chocolate, onions, grapes and raisins are all **poisonous to dogs** – so no sharing!

### Why not invent your own way to make feeding time **MORE** fun?

We'd love to hear your ideas and even see them in action! Take a photo and ask an adult to send it to us at [community@woodgreen.org.uk](mailto:community@woodgreen.org.uk)  
Your idea might even make it into our next fun booklet!

## MAKE A CHEWY TUBE!

Get hands on with another fun way to feed your dog without a food bowl.

### What you need

A kitchen roll tube  
A pen  
2 gravy bones  
Some dry dog  
Some tissues or newspaper

1. Using your pen, carefully make 4 holes in your kitchen roll tube.



2. Break the gravy bones in half and push the 4 pieces into the 4 holes you made, so they are half in and half out of the tube.



3. Put some dry dog food or treats inside the tube and stuff tissue or newspaper into each end to stop the food falling out.



4. Give the tube to your dog and watch them work out how to get the tasty treats!



Don't forget to give your dog plenty of fresh, clean water too!



Companionship: spending time with the family

## FAMILY TIME!

Most dogs love people, so time with their human family every day is very important.

Dogs can feel lonely and sad if they are left on their own for a long time, just like we can.



How does  
**DAISY**  
feel?



Daisy the dog is waiting for her family to come home.

Can you circle how you think she feels while she is waiting?



It's family time! Daisy's family have just arrived home.

Can you circle how she feels now?



Now **DRAW** a picture of them all playing **TOGETHER!**



**Need to be housed with, or apart, from other animals...**

Some animals need friends of their own kind and some should be housed on their own.

### Making dogs part of the family

Sometimes dogs arrive at Wood Green if their owners can't give them enough family time. We find them a new home where they can enjoy family time every day and feel happy again!



Vet care: a healthy life

# BANISH THOSE BUGS!



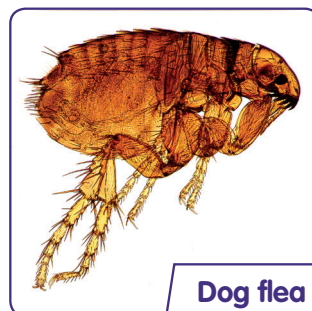
It is the law to keep our dogs healthy so we need to take them to the vet for regular check-ups as well as when they're ill or in pain. Dogs also need regular medicine to stay healthy and happy.

Here are two of the things the vet can give your dog medicine for.

## Itchy fleas

All dogs can get fleas. They make dogs very itchy and uncomfortable. They can also jump onto us and make us itchy too.

To get rid of fleas, dogs need regular flea medicine. You can buy medicine that works really well from the vet or a pet medicine website.



Dog flea

## Greedy worms

All dogs can get worms in their tummies. Worms can make dogs feel poorly and stop them getting the energy they need from their food. If your dog has worms, you could get them too and start to feel poorly as well.

To stop dogs getting worms, they need worm medicine – you can feed them the tablet in some tasty cheese without them even knowing!



Worms

**Need to be protected from pain, suffering, injury and disease...**

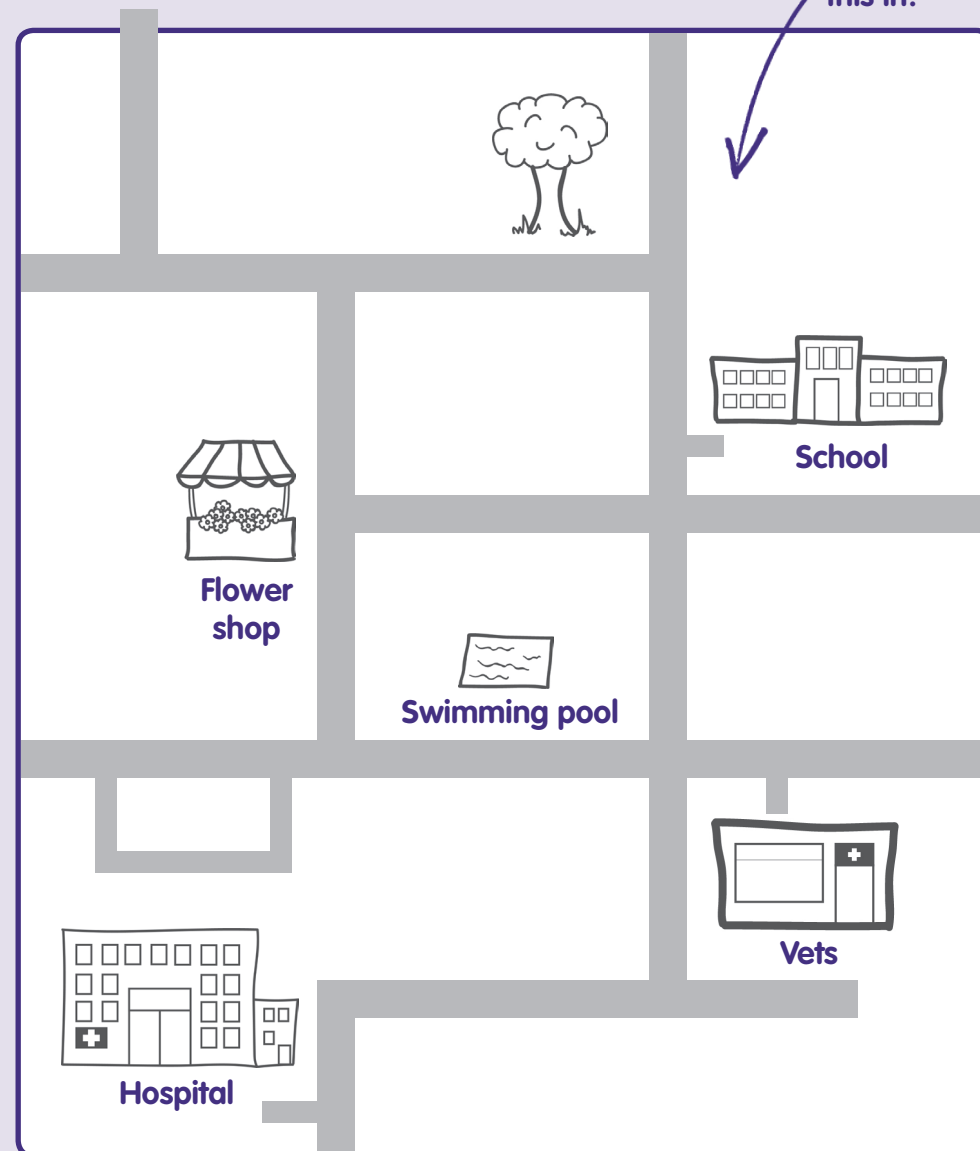
Pets need to be kept healthy and taken to the vets if they are ill or injured. Some animals need flea and worming treatment and vaccinations.



## Medicine map

Can you help Julie find a place to buy some flea and worm medicine that works really well for her dog, Duke?

Colour this in!





Normal behaviour: the chance to do what dogs love doing

## DAILY SNIFFS!

Dogs need to be able to do what they love doing. And dogs love exploring, so it's important for them to have a walk out and about every day.

Running round the garden is fun, but on a walk they can explore and sniff new smells – and that will really get their tail wagging!

### Here wee go!

How do you know if a dog really likes a sniff on a walk?

They wee on it to leave their smell behind for the next dog who comes along!



So lots of wees = a super interesting walk!

### Need to be able to show normal behaviour...

Animals should have enough space and exciting things to do, to be able to show their normal behaviour.

### Top tip

Want to make daily sniffs extra fun for your furry friend? Take some of their breakfast or dinner on your walk and hide it in the bushes or long grass. Then watch them sniff it out!



## Daily Sniffs MAZE!

Can you help Denzel the dog explore all 11 sniffs on his walk through the maze and get back home for a rest?



START



FINISH

# Staying safe around DOGS




## What WOODY WANTS...



If you want to play with a dog, first make sure your grown up can watch you.

Now you are an **expert** on the **five things** every dog needs to stay **healthy** and **happy**. But what about staying safe around dogs when you want to play with them?

Then to stay safe, simply remember the **3 ws** – it's **What Woody Wants!**

-  **Wait** for the dog to come to you
-  **Watch** for a
-  **Wag**

**Waiting for the dog come to you is the best thing to do** – even for a dog you know well. If they don't come, that means they would rather not play, so leave them to rest.

## Kisses and cuddles? NO THANKS!



Dogs don't kiss and cuddle their best doggy friends, they play with them instead. That's what they want us to do too.

So swap kisses and tight cuddles for playtime and you will be your dog's new best friend! If you want to give your dog a gentle fuss, make sure you always have a grown up with you.

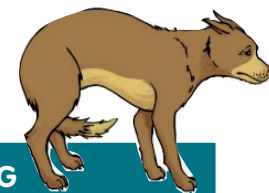
**WATCH** our **FUN DOG**  
animation all about staying **SAFE**

at: <https://woodgreen.org.uk/educational-resources/dog-animation-videos>



## LEAVE ME ALONE – FOR DOGS

How dogs show us they want to be alone



All dogs have **feelings just like us**. They can feel happy, sad, excited and frightened.

Can you work out how **Dixie the DOG** is feeling by looking at her body – especially her **EARS** and **tail**? Circle your answer.

**Frightened**

**Happy**

**Excited**

## DID YOU GUESS RIGHT?

If any dog looks frightened like Dixie, it is best to **leave them alone** until they come to you to play.

Dixie is frightened. Perhaps there have been some fireworks that have scared her. Her ears are flat against her head and her tail is tucked under her body. She is showing us she is frightened and that she would like to be alone in her safe space until she feels happier.

## LEAVE ME ALONE – FOR YOU

How to show a dog you want to be left alone

What about if you want to be alone and do not want to play with a dog?

If you are playing in the park and a dog tries to join in, **what could you do?**

**Stand like a statue!**

**Stand like a statue** and fold your arms. This will show the dog you do not want to play.

**Be a tortoise!**

If you are on the ground, the best way to show a dog you want them to leave you alone is to **be a tortoise!** Roll up in a ball and tuck your arms and legs in.

Can you **DRAW** someone **standing like a STATUE** and **being a TORTOISE** in the park so a dog will leave them alone?



# Dogtastic

## QUIZ

Now that you have read our booklet, can you answer these questions?

Why not **challenge** a **FRIEND** or family member to see **who** can get the most right!



What **5 things** does every **DOG** need to be **HEALTHY** and **happy**?



Remember, it is the **law** to give **dogs** these **five** important things.



What could **you do** if you wanted a **DOG** to **leave YOU alone**?



Can you name a **FUN way** to **feed** a **DOG** **without** using a bowl?



If you have a **very BIG** garden, does your **DOG** still need to go out for a **walk EVERY day**?



 Yes

 No

5

Would this dog like to be **alone** in their **SAFE SPACE**?



♥ Yes

♥ No

6

What do the **3 Ws** stand for when staying **SAFE** around dogs?

W

W

W

7

How would a **DOG** feel if they were **left** on their own **ALL** day, **EVERY** day?



8

How does a **DOG** feel if they have **fleas**?



**Answers:** 1. Home, diet, vet care, companionship, normal behaviour. 2. Stand like a statue or be a tortoise! 3. Scatter food in the garden, hide it in a cardboard box, put it in a kong or make a chewy tube. 4. Yes. 5. Yes. 6. Pause. Allow the dog to come to you for a sniff. 7. Wait for a wag! 8. Itchy and uncomfortable.





## Let's talk about pets!

We want to get you, your family and friends all talking about pets!

The more everyone talks about what pets need, the easier it will be to make sure they stay happy and healthy!

## Get free advice about your pet

If you'd like some free advice about caring for your pet

♥ call our Pet Support Line on **0300 303 9333**

♥ email **[Pet.Support@woodgreen.org.uk](mailto:Pet.Support@woodgreen.org.uk)**

♥ visit **[woodgreen.org.uk](http://woodgreen.org.uk)**

