

# FEAR FREE PUPPY SOCIALIZATION



## Making Exposure Positive

Use these bingo squares for ideas on how to socialize your puppy. Socialization and exposure are active processes that are most crucial from three to sixteen weeks of age but should continue well beyond this age range. However, it's important to realize that socialization is not simply about exposure—it's about making it fun and positive from the start.

Think of these experiences as a behavioral investment, like placing pennies in a piggy bank. When done properly, your investment will result in a friendly and outgoing dog. Positive, proactive socialization involves liberal use of food treats (or, for some dogs, interactive play with a toy/attention/petting) to help form positive associations.

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| Fun Visit at Veterinary Hospital  | Have visitors to your home  | Take your puppy to a friend's or relative's house                                | Meet at least 5 people using the 'Go-Say-Hi' protocol  | See someone carrying something in hand, such as an umbrella        |
| Play with a minimum of 3 food puzzle toys                                     | Fun Visit at a Grooming Salon or with a Groomer   | See children playing from a distance   | See and/or meet a person in uniform  | Hear construction sounds   |
| Hear and/or see household appliances  | See or hear a motorcycle or trolley   | Go for a ride in a car   | See at least 5 other animals from a distance (duck, geese, birds, squirrels, horses, cattle) | Hear and/or see lawn equipment                                     |
| See or meet an adult dog who is healthy, friendly, and relaxed around puppies | Walk on 3 different safe and sturdy surfaces such as wood, gravel, sand, metal, concrete, rubber, etc | See and/or meet a person with mobility assistance (wheelchair, walker, crutches) | Hear and/or see a large truck, train, or bus from a distance                                 | Explore at least 5 novel objects using the 'Check-It-Out' protocol |
| Walk, play, and/or swim in water  | Be exposed to a recording of fireworks at a low and controlled volume                                 | See and/or meet a cat who is friendly and relaxed around dogs                    | Hear children screaming and crying   | Be exposed to the sound of wind, rain, and thunder                 |



For more information, please visit [www.fearfreehappyhomes.com](http://www.fearfreehappyhomes.com)