

# Jane Anderson's

## Kids & Puppy Information Pack

for

### Bluegrace Portuguese Water Dogs

**Page Objective:** This page has been put together to serve as a further source of information to the kids who are getting one of the Bluegrace Portuguese Water Dogs into their homes.

Be sure to check back often to this page as we update it with useful information.

Firstly, let's start with the quiz. When you finish reading this page and fully understanding it, I'd expect you to be able to do the following quiz:

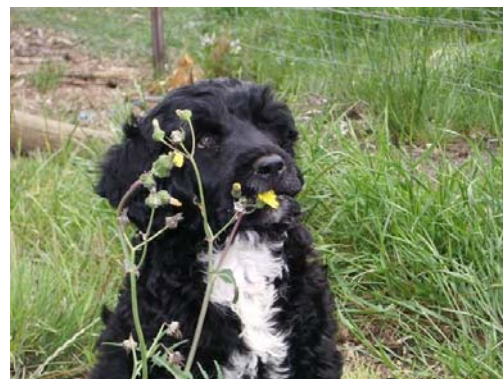


1. What is the most important thing to feed your puppy?
2. Should you have clean fresh water out for your pup at all times?
3. Can you feed your dog raw fresh eggs?
4. What should you do if your pup feels a little scared?
5. Should you let your pup chew your shoes?
6. Should you let your pup bite you?
7. What should you do if your pup jumps up on you?
8. Can you start training your pup now?
9. When should you take your pup outside to do a wee?
10. Who should you contact if you ever have questions about your pup?

Now, keep in mind those questions when you read through these pages.



Hi there. My name is Jane. I am the person who owns the dogs that your pup came from. I was really happy to place my pups with so many wonderful families. We've kept a pup ourselves. That's is pictured on the right. His name is Harry Potter and if you click on the picture it will make it bigger.



Given that we have little Harry Potter living with us, we also know that if you're having any trouble with your pup, we've probably seen the same thing here. This might be biting, house training, or eating your shoes! - We'll talk about how to deal with those all a little bit later.

So, sit down and read this, or get your mum or dad, or another older person to help you understand all that I'm talking about. My son William, who is 10 and who has grown up with water dogs, has also helped contribute to putting this page together.

Ok, I bet it is very exciting to have your little pup. We have pups all over Australia. Some are in Perth, Adelaide, Tasmania, Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney, Brisbane, and other places. We even sent one overseas! He travelled in a safe crate and slept the whole way to his new family.

It was sad for us to see them go, but we know that they should bring you and your family lots of pleasure in their new homes.

I've got some notes below that I want you to pay attention to, and I'll put a little test at the end and you can complete that to check if you're understanding how best to look after your pup.

## Coming to your home

Your pup has been part of a large family that they have become very used to. So, it's going to be very strange for the pup to move away to your home. The first 2-3 days are the toughest, and it can seem a little hard at first.

Your pup may be a little scared, and it will definitely be lonely and worried if it will fit in ok.

It's really important during this period that you do what you can to make the pup feel safe. This means, don't play too much with them, and don't put them in situations where they may be scared. If they look a little worried, then I find that sitting on the floor, and letting them come to me to feel comfortable works well. If you take it slowly within a few short moments the pup will gain confidence. Remember, they are still a little baby.



I know your friends will want to see the pup, but don't take them out to too many places too early on. Sometimes this can make them a little sick because they get over-whelmed with all the new things you are showing them. So, take it easy with them, and don't push them too hard.



## Food

As I would have explained to your parents, your puppy has to eat a completely natural diet. This means they should eat plenty of raw meaty bones. These must always be raw and never, ever cooked. Chicken - raw of course - are a good source of food. So are fresh whole fish like sardines and mullet. Make sure your pup eats them all raw. Eggs are also good. Keep in mind, dogs are carnivores. So they need to eat real meat products. Don't let anyone tell you that dogs need rice, or veggies, or fruit, or oats or toast. These must not be fed.

Don't ever feed your pup milk or bread or rice or oats. A dog's tummy does not do best eating those sorts of food. And of course, as your dad and mum will tell you, dog food that comes out of a can or a packet is definitely nowhere near good enough for your pup. For your pup to grow strong and healthy, they need to have plenty of raw meaty bones.



And always be sure that they have plenty of cool clean drinking water.

## Playing with your pup

I bet you love playing with your pup! I sure love playing with my little girl. It's lots of fun, and they seem to have lots of energy. But they have sharp teeth, don't they?!

It's really important that you don't ever encourage them to bite you. I know it can seem like fun, but it can be very painful, and you don't want them play biting with you as you get older, as it will really hurt then! I've told your mum/dad the best books to buy. I've got a list of them at the bottom of this page, so maybe you can read some of them.

If your puppy does bite you, it's a good sign that they may be getting a little too excited. This means, it's time to let them play by themselves. Perhaps there is a puppy toy they can play with to distract them from biting you. Always ask mum or dad for help if the pup is biting. They really don't mean to harm you, but they just need to know that they can't do it. And it may take a little bit of time for them to learn.

Also, you want to make sure that the pup does not jump up on you. I know they are little pups now, but soon they will be much bigger. It's important that you don't encourage them to jump up. It's cute now, but imagine what it would be like when they are adults and weigh about 24 kg. Now that's very heavy.

With my puppy, I always bend down to pet her, or sit on the floor so that she doesn't need to jump up. Ask for help from Mum and Dad when you need it.

## Sleeping

My dogs don't sleep in my bed. I prefer her to sleep in their own beds because soon they are going to be much bigger and they can't all snuggle up to me!

Your pup will need to spend lots of time sleeping. So when your puppy is asleep, let them lie there and re-gain all their energy so that they can play with you again soon. Also, when the pup sleeps is when they grow, and they need to be able to get plenty of sleep so their little bodies can grow properly.



It's really important that your puppy does not sleep on your bed. Your pup will be much better behaved by having its own bed. And we don't want a naughty pup now do we!

## Exercise and training



Your pup loves getting exercise. But don't overdo it. If you do take them out for a walk, make sure that it's a short walk only, and that your pup is wearing a collar and leash at all times.

Your pup should be very intelligent. You can teach your pup all sorts of fun things now, like sitting, and shaking hands, and rolling over.

We suggest using small pieces of food for a reward to your pup when they do the right thing. Don't ever smack your pup. That's cruel. No one likes being smacked, including your pup, and we all do best when we're help to do the right thing, rather than punished for making mistakes.

Hopefully mum or dad can take your pup to puppy school. We suggest using a type of training called, "clicker training", as your pup will learn really quickly this way and become much more fun.

## House Training

Pups need to be shown where they can toilet. We like ours to go outside and do their business in the garden. I will say, "Come on Harry, do your busi". "Busi" is short for "business", as in "doing your business".

You will need to take your pup outside after they have a bit of a sleep, a play, and after eating. Usually they get the hang of doing a little wee quite quickly.

Puppies sometimes have accidents inside. They are pretty easy to clean up. Mum or dad might have a "doggy" towel to use. Always remember, when the pup has an accident, they didn't mean to do it. They just forgot, or didn't get outside quickly enough.

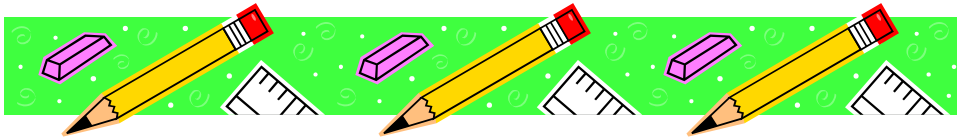
## Toys

Your pup, just like my pup Harry Potter, loves toys. You don't have to spend a lot of money on toys. Actually Harry Potter likes to play with empty plastic bottles and icecream containers.

Make sure the toys are safe for your pup and that they can't chew off bits and swallow them.

And don't let your puppy try and ride your bike!

They will try and play and be rough with your toys if you leave them out. My boy Will has had to learn to put all his toys away otherwise Harry Potter will play with them. It really makes him learn how to clean up his room. So remember - don't blame the pup for chewing up your toys or your shoes - you have to learn to put them away! Otherwise your pup will think that you've left them out for them to play with!



## Troubleshooting

There are some fantastic books out there which we recommend you read. Take it from me, we've probably read all the good ones, so can shortcut your reading program. We have written a book on the Bluegrace Portuguese Water Dog which you can order on line by clicking [here](#).

## Recommended Reading

Jan Fennell's, "The Dog Listener"

### Links:

[www.bluegrace.com](http://www.bluegrace.com)

[www.rawlearning.com](http://www.rawlearning.com)

[www.k9wavelength.com](http://www.k9wavelength.com)

### Email:

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