



# **THE RDOC DOG GUARDIAN NEWSLETTER**

**KIDS EDITION – AUGUST 2019**

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Hi everybody

Welcome to the August edition of the Kids Dog Guardian newsletter. For those of you who are new members, let us introduce ourselves. We are the Dog Guardian newsletter co-editors' dogs - Tyler, Julie's pup, and Morgan, Jill's pup. We decided the Kids newsletter needed articles written by us. We want to give you guys our perspective of being responsible around us.

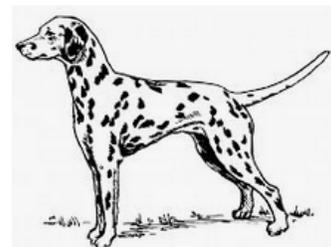
## **We Are Special** by Tyler

My friend Mary (Blaney) suggested we talk about Dalmation dogs this month. According to [Wikipedia](#), Dalmations are medium size dogs. That means bigger than my friend Tyke (Jack Russell), but smaller than me (Labrador Retriever). They weigh between 15 - 32 kg (33 - 70 lbs.), and are between 56 - 61 cm (22 - 24 inches) tall. Their coats are white with black or liver coloured spots. They live about as long as Labs do, 12 - 14 years.



The article “[11 Spotted Facts About Dalmatians](#)” by Rebecca Oconnell has some really neat facts about these dogs. For example, did you know that they are very smart and have very good memories? That’s one of the main reasons they are used in movies.

“Dalmatians have many talents, but they’re possibly best known for their skills as [coaching dogs](#).” They get along well with horses, so in the good old days they used to run alongside carriages to chase away stray dogs, and keep the horses calm. They also ran behind fire trucks, which in those days were pulled by horses. Horses were skittish around fires, and the Dalmatians kept them calm. No wonder every fire station had a resident Dalmatian. 😊



Did you know that Dalmatians are born without spots? They are born all white. They get the spots when they are about 4 weeks old. I didn't know that either. See, even I learn something new every day. "Woof!"

Just like my friend Tyke's breed, Dalmatians need lots of exercise. They also like going to doggie classes to learn how to behave. They are full of energy, and it is important for them to learn how to put all their enthusiasm into doing things that people like them to do, instead of just being hyper.

One more thing. When my Mom calls me, and I don't come, it's because I am ignoring her. I'm having too much fun playing. However, if a Dalmatian's Mom calls him, and he doesn't come, it could be because he didn't hear her. In the article, it says that about a third of these dogs are deaf. Unfortunately, they don't make hearing aids for dogs. Maybe when you grow up, you can become a scientist, and invent hearing aids for dogs. 😊

## **Very Useful Things To Learn** *by Morgan*

Last month, we started a new section called "Very Useful Things To Learn". We are going to tell you about things we have learned that make us safe, well behaved, and (best of all) earn us lots of cookies. Woofie! Woof! 😊 They are easy skills to teach us.



Last month we talked about “Sit”. This month we are going to talk about “Come”. Why “Come”, you ask? Well, Tyler found that in order to get cookies he has to “Come” to Julie. He let Julie think that she taught him to come. Actually, it was him who trained Julie to give him a cookie when he comes to her (chuckle). Seriously, “Come” is a skill all dogs have to learn in order to be safe.

We find that the best way to learn something new is through play. The article, [“Want your Dog To Come When Called? Play a Game”](#), has 5 different games you can play with your dog. Ask an adult to help you with these fun games. My favourite game is “Go and Come”. Tyler’s is “Hide and Seek”.

## **Dogs' Den Storybook** by Morgan

Over the last year, we shared with you all our thoughts about having fun and being safe around us. Now it’s your turn. Ask us questions about things you want to know about dogs. Email your questions to [morejulie@hotmail.com](mailto:morejulie@hotmail.com) and we will try to answer them.

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*Here is this month’s question, from Karen:  
“Is there a right age for a child to get a dog?”*

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That’s a very good question, Karen. I went on Google Search to find the answer. I wish Google Search was in doggie language instead of people language. Doggie language is much easier for us to understand. Good thing Tyler and I are bilingual! We know both doggie language and people language. “Woofie! Woof!” 😊

There are lots of articles written on this subject. Here are 2 questions you and your parents can ask to help decide when it is a good time to get a pup: What are you like around your friends' dogs? How much do you help around the house?



You see, each person is different. So age doesn't really matter. It's how mature you are that matters. What's 'mature', you ask? Good question. It has lots of different meanings. In this case, Tyler and I think 'mature' means being safe around us dogs, and doing what you promised to do to help your parents look after us.

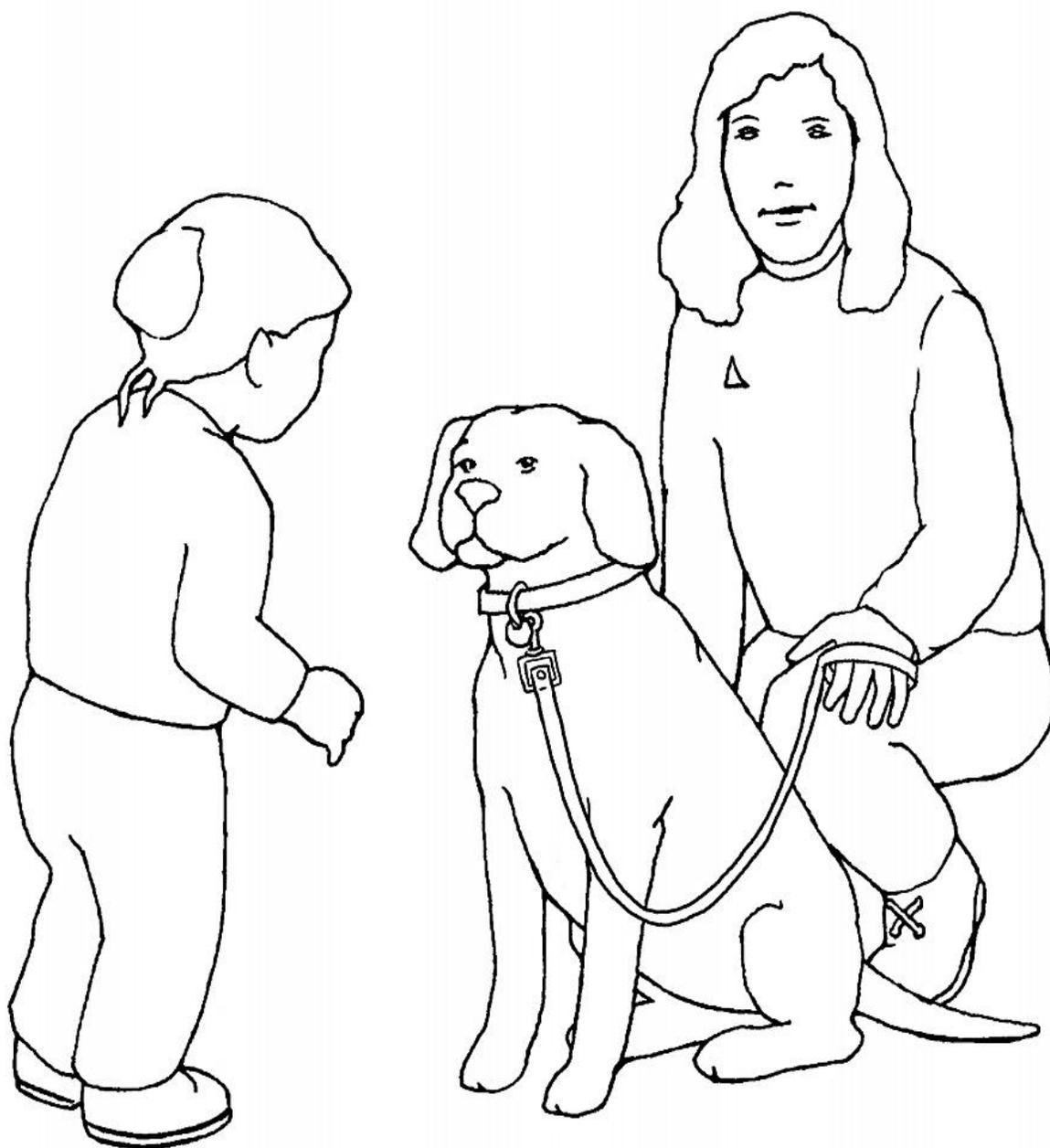
### **Colouring Contest** *by Morgan and Tyler*



We agree with the picture on page 14 of "The Fido, Friend or Foe?" Activity booklet

<http://www.responsible dogowners.ca/studies.html>. We know that you are eager to meet us, but please don't run up to us. Some of us are nervous, and may bark at you.

Print out the picture on the next page, colour it, and scan or take a photo of it, then send it to us at [morejulie@hotmail.com](mailto:morejulie@hotmail.com) with your email address.



Always approach a dog **you know** slowly.

## Quiz *by Tyler*

Morgan and I love to play with balls. All kinds of balls: footballs, soccer balls, baseballs – you name it, we play with it. We keep losing them, and were wondering if you could get us more. How, you ask? Well, look at the quiz below.

We made up questions from this newsletter. Each question has a ball beside it. Answer the question correctly, and we get that ball. Yep, you are right. You do the work, and we get to play. “Woofie! Woof!” 😊



Why are Dalmations called “coaching dogs”?



Are Dalmation pups born with spots?



Do some Dalmation dogs have hearing problems?



What’s the best way to teach a dog a new skill, like “Come”?



How does your family know you are ready to get a dog?



When you see a dog in the park, do you run up to him and give him a big hug?

(Answers are on the next page)

## Thank You

A big thank you goes to our committee for proofreading this newsletter. We really appreciate your help. You are the greatest. A special thank you goes to Kit Watson for the final proofreading of the newsletter. *Tyler and Morgan*

## Answers to the Quiz



In the good old days before cars were invented, Dalmatian dogs used to run alongside carriages to chase away stray dogs, and keep the horses calm. They like horses, and the horses like them.



Nope, Dalmatian puppies are born all white. They get the spots when they are about 4 weeks old.



Yep, about a third of these dogs are deaf. Maybe when you grow up you will invent hearing aids for these pups!



We find that the best way to learn something new is through games. It's fun, so we don't realize we are learning.



Each person is different, so age doesn't really matter. It's how mature you are that matters.



Please don't run up to us. Some of us are nervous and may bark at you. We know you already know that. We just wanted to give you an easy question, so we can get an extra ball. Sneaky, aren't we? "Woofie! Woof!" 🐶