



The first Autumn Dog Activity Demonstration

The day came for the first Autumn Dog Activity Demonstration. Children had eagerly taken their seats, with snacks and drinks, and families brought their cameras of course.

They were ready for a good time of laughter. Even if dogs didn't do just as they were trained to do, it would still be fun and entertaining. Animals just were very interesting as they were—especially pets.

The first demonstration was by Mr. Logen and his dog Boger. He was taught to run and crawl through tyres that were set on end, through one and then run over to the next and go through it, and carry on until the last tyre had been crawled through. The trick was to do it without the tyre knocking over.

It was tricky but he made it! Well, the second to the last tyre fell down, but that didn't matter. That helped the audience to realise how difficult it was, really, and how amazing it was that the other tyres didn't fall over.

Boger was rewarded with a dog treat to nibble on, and the crowd clapped and cheered. He would do more tricks later, but one at a time kept the show going at a lively pace.

The next demonstration was from Tiny Toodles, a well-loved pet Poodle, well on in years, that seemed to be able to do no more than take a leisurely walk.

But Tiny Toodles demonstrated how to walk with a biscuit on its nose along a long thin board of wood, without it following off. It had self control to not eat that biscuit until it reached the end of that board. Every one cheered!

Danny the Dane was everything the opposite of Tiny Toddles. He was tall and could run faster than you could get the ball over to where he wanted to catch it from. He had smooth and short fur.

Today he demonstrated that he could dance. Up on his back legs he went, walking a bit, twirling, hopping, batting his front legs, all with some comical music being played. The children laughed.

They called him Danny the Dancing Dane. To make it all the more fun, his owner had put on a bowtie and pretend moustache on Danny. It was one of the more comical demonstrations.

Next up was the puppies. They were five black Labrador puppies—well they used to be, but now they were grown up. They were a funny team and always liked to do things together. Their names were simply Puppy One, Puppy Two, and so forth.

Today they would demonstrate a race, who could get to the ball the fastest and bring it back to the owner.

The first one to do so, was rewarded, and then set aside in the kennel while he barked and cheered the others on. The four that remained then had another race to get the ball. The winner of that was rewarded, and joined the first one in the kennel, while the remaining three raced to get the ball, and so forth.

At last the remaining dog went to retrieve the ball and was rewarded. The first was fastest, the last was the most enduring and didn't give up though he didn't get the ball time after time. He kept going. All were winners in some way.

Then it was time for Hearty. When Hearty came out, looks of sorrow came across faces. They didn't yet know that Hearty was putting on a drama and demonstrating great skill. He was dressed up with one of his front paws bandaged up, so he had to get along with only three paws, and a bandage on his eyes.

Without full use of his paws, nor without the ability to see just yet, he was able to wend his way around some obstacles and make it to the plate of food.

When he did, the cheers came and his paw was released as well as his blindfold removed from his eyes. But rather than run around like any dog would normally do, he demonstrated walking on his hind legs.

When he tired of that, he simply took great strides and leapt up over each of the obstacles that he had walked around before. He showed that no matter what the obstacle or difficulty, he could overcome.

These dogs all did other demonstrations later in the day, as well as other dogs that joined in. It was a wonderful time that was enjoyed by all.

At the close of the ADAD day, Berry Beary Kind stood up to give a final word to all before they left for home.

“Let’s have another round of applause for each of... the dog’s owners! Yes the dogs did entertain us, but it was the owners that took their time and effort to care well for their dogs and teach, in some cases, an old dog some new tricks.”

After the applause ended, and each of the owners, with their dogs came and took a bow, Berry Beary Kind ended with saying,

“Each of the tricks were clever and we can learn something from them—something that will help us have happy days and happy families. We can be careful and attentive, like Boger had to be to get through the tyres.

“We can have self control and patience and just keep going on the narrow road of our life, not falling off to the side, indulging in something before we have done what we were meant to do.

“We can learn something new, something that seems very different for us but that helps to make others happy and smile, like Danny the Dane.

“We can learn to take turns to get the rewards, and keep on working hard again and again until eventual we too are rewarded, like the Puppies.

“We can bravely face any obstacle or difficulty and try to make our way through or around or over it, without complaint, like Hearty—who himself did just that.

“Let’s have a special applause and cheer for Mr. Bear Gladly, who has started a wonderful new initiative in Berry Beary Town, and we today are enjoying a bit of that idea he has persevered in.”

Mr. Bear Gladly took a bow and then said,

“And it was all because a few friends helped me along. I couldn’t have done it without them—and certainly this day wouldn’t have happened if it wasn’t for all of you here today! Thank you all for coming. I hope we can bring you another bit of fun next year too. Thank you!”

Berry Beary Kind was glad to see the change that Mr. Bear Gladly had made. Yes, he might have helped to get him started, and Mr. Logan helped as well to be a friend to him, but Mr. Bear Gladly had to be the one to put forth the effort, day after day, to follow through on the good ideas that made a positive change in his own life, and in the lives of others, that then affected the whole town for the better.

Berry Beary Kind ended saying,

“Each one of you here has good ideas that can make things better for so many others. Do what you can to make our town the best it can be—and you will all be as happy as you can. Have a good night now! I’ll see you around!”

“Bye!” everyone waved, and happily headed back home.

Berry Beary Kind walked with Mr. Bear Gladly and Hearty back to his apartment. They chatted and laughed as they remembered some of the dog's antics of the day.

When Mr. Bear Gladly entered his apartment, before Berry Beary Kind left to go back to his own home, he caught a glimpse of the place, and exclaimed,

“Wow! It's looks so good in here! You have really fixed things up. And those pictures on the wall are just great!”

Mr. Bear Gladly smiled. Things were indeed so much better than before. And tonight he was having an evening meal with the neighbouring couple, who had become dear friends of his.

Berry Beary Kind walked away happy. It was always nice to see those in his town happy and friendly, helping each other to not be lonely, sad, or withering in healthy. He liked to have a happy and healthy and helping others town. He whistled as he walked away. The positive change was making his own heart sing.