



Berry Beary Kind Series:
www.nurture-inspire-teach.com

Bear Gladly's Good New Idea

Mr. Bear Gladly—who was no longer Mr. Grump-and-Do-Little—was reading through a course on dog exercise and training. “So many types of dogs—each with a variety of needs,” he was thinking.

Since taking his dog Hearty to the park now each day, not just for a stroll, but for good vigorous exercise—for the dog that is, and some for him too—so much good had happened.

Things were getting cleaned up in his apartment due to his new found energy from fresh air and a good walk a few times each day. Hearty, his dog, was so much calmer and in a better mood. Mr. Bear Gladly had time for friends.

He was feeling in better health with all the joy and activity he now had in his day.

The idea had come to him that it would be a great help to start an Exercise-Your-Dog club. As the park was close to his dwelling place this would be an easy thing for him to do.

He could be available at the park a few times each day, with all the funnest gadgets for all sorts of games and playful exercise.

People could come and join in the fun with their pets, and both they and their dogs could romp and have some good run around time. It would be at times when the park wasn't being used by teams of children for larger game activities.

Mr. Bear Gladly was studying up on the various types of dogs and what they need and find fun. He wanted to learn all that he could so all the dogs attending would get what they most needed.

After studying a bit, Mr. Bear Gladly took time to write down all the many ideas he was getting: what toys and game aids would be on hand, what skills they could teach the dogs that

would be helpful—like how to fetch and return something; how to sit and be quiet and wait; how to pull sleds for travel in snowy conditions, and so forth.

If all the owners of the dogs worked together to train their dogs and give them plenty of good running time, the owners themselves would benefit as well.

The dogs in Berry Beary Town would be happy and well cared for. Maybe they could even put on dog shows for the entertainment of those in living in Berry Beary Town—it was always nice to have fun events to look forward to.

There were so many ideas and benefits for this plan. Mr. Bear Gladly was just getting started on it. He was feeling happier and more active by the day.

He called for a meeting of dog owners one spring day to share about his plan and activity. Others at the meeting made some additional suggestions and helped to fill out the plan to include all the various aspects that would make it work smoothly.

There would need to be drinking water and snacks for dogs available; there would need to be clean up crews so that the park grassy lawn would stay suitable for children running and playing.

Dog grooming could be available too, for those who needed their nails cut and their fur brushed, or needed a good bath.

The plan would be set in motion throughout the spring and summer months, as a try out to see how it would go.

In the autumn dog owners who wanted their dogs to participate, would train them for some skill that they could demonstrate at the proposed Autumn Dog Activity Demonstration—or ADAD as they called it.

Though he had more to do than he'd ever done in a long time, Mr. Bear Gladly felt more energy than before. He was nearly always on the move doing this, planning that, researching material—and trying out each new type of toy and gadget for fun play with pets.

Hearty his dog got to be the happy pet that tried it all out first. Whatever Hearty found fun, that toy was included in the game accessories made available for all the dogs who were part of the club.

At the end of a long and vigorous day, Mr. Bear Gladly was hanging up some new pictures he had framed, photos he had taken of the different types of dogs that were part of his club.

It was fun to see how clever and funny they all could be. He had new inspiration, and was glad he was helping to do something that no one else was doing—a new idea.

It was brave to try something for the first time, but the results were making it worth his effort.

Children in the families that had pets would come up to him and thank him whenever they saw him, because their family's pet was much nicer to be around, was cleaner, and calmer at night.

“Thank you for making sure the dogs aren't there when we need the field to run around in and play in, that's nice too,” one child said.

It's good to do something great to help fill in a need in one area, and it's good to think about how it will affect others around, so that your one good idea does the most good it can, and doesn't have side effects that are undesired.

All involved should have their needs met, as much as is possible, without interfering with each other's joy.