



KEEPING YOUR FOSTER CAMP DOG SAFE

Because new environments can cause stress to dogs and puppies, it's normal for them to want to hide or seek refuge under tables and chairs. If they are scared, they also might try to escape, so it's important to be cautious while opening and closing doors.

Toxins and poisons in your home

It is important to put any medicine, human food and beauty products in places that your foster dog cannot access. It is also important to lock up any cleaning products or chemicals that you have in your house or garage.

- Antifreeze for cars tastes sweet to dogs and cats and they will lick it off the floor, the container or their paws. It is highly poisonous and can lead to death.
- Certain foods are toxic to dogs. These include: avocado, onion, garlic, grapes, chocolate, walnuts, macadamia nuts, alcohol, cooked bones such as fish and chicken, xylitol (often found in chewing gum), mushrooms, caffeine and fatty foods.
- Medications such as Tylenol and Advil

If your foster dog ate something you're not sure is safe, call the National Pet Poison Help Line at 1-800-213-6680.

Inside and outside

Foster dogs should be kept indoors. They should not live outside.

Please do not leave your foster dog outside unsupervised, even if you have a fenced-in yard. Dogs have an amazing ability to escape out of the most secure yards. Many dogs can climb fences and jump higher than we could ever imagine. Plus, they like to dig deep holes.

If you do not have a fenced-in yard, make sure your dog always has a collar and a leash on before opening the door. Sometimes dogs will try to escape when the door opens. (We call these dogs door-dashers.)

Be sure your foster dog's leash is always secured to his collar or harness when going out for potty breaks or walks.

A loose dog can knock people over, run out in traffic, injure other animals or become injured. It can be hard to predict how your foster dog or other dogs will react in certain situations, so try to err on the side of safety.

Also, please don't let your foster dog ride in the bed of an open pickup truck. When you're traveling in a car or truck with your foster pup, please keep her inside the vehicle with the windows closed.

Other dogs

Often, it's hard to tell if the dogs your foster dog comes into contact with are up to date on vaccinations or carry a disease, so it is best if your foster dog avoids meeting unknown dogs at first. Foster dogs can be vulnerable health-wise.

Doggie etiquette

Did you know that you should not approach or pet a dog who's eating, sleeping or playing with a toy? Before petting a dog you don't know, it's always a good idea to first ask the dog's person for permission. Some pups are afraid of people or children. Some have medical issues that make parts of their bodies sensitive and even painful to the touch.

ACTIVITY

Download our [activity sheet on dog safety](#).

Check out [Making Friends with Buddy](#) to learn more about dog etiquette. After you have read the poem, answer the questions on the second page.

CREATE

Watch [Best Friends Family Fun video](#) on YouTube. Join Jennifer in creating a dog and cat picture using torn-up paper and magazines.

READ

Curl up with your foster dog and read her your favorite book. If your foster dog is shy, try quietly sitting in the room and softly reading your book. It might encourage her to come out and explore.

Do you want to read a new book? Check your school or local library for the following title. If you don't have time to stop by the library have your parent or guardian search the internet and see if you can access the story online.

[Let's Get a Pup! Said Kate](#) by Bob Graham

PLAY

Dog race

- Cut out a dog shape from a lightweight piece of paper and give one to each player.
- Give each player a paper plate or a magazine to fan the paper dog.
- Create a starting line and a goal.
- Use a magazine or paper plate to blow air and move your paper dog toward the goal.
- The first paper dog to the finish line wins.

SHARE

With the permission of your parent or guardian, create a social media post listing three reasons you started fostering. Maybe you will inspire another family to foster a dog or cat!

Use the hashtags **#BFFosterCamp** **#BFFamilyFun** to help spread the word.

If you are not able to share it on social media, print it out and share with your friends around school or at your local library.

Thank you for participating in Best Friends Foster Pet Camp. You are helping Save Them All!

