

# PupDate 2

Julia

Life with my  
Puppy Raiser

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## Learning is Fun

**S**punky Julia, with her big personality, loves living with her puppy raiser, Meghan. Full of energy and enthusiasm, Julia transitions happily between playtime and work time. She especially enjoys snuggles, which Meghan deliberately pairs with body handling sessions. As Meghan practices touching Julia's ears, gums, and paws, she instills in her pup a general

willingness to be handled by humans.

With Julia's enthusiasm for playing and romping, Meghan has great fun with this smart girl while giving her plenty of socialization and exposure to new environments. Many evenings and weekends, they go exploring in a kayak. Exposing dogs in training to different life experiences makes them more resilient and teaches them to be confident in new surroundings. One measure of a guide or service dog's success with a future partner involves flexibility and good judgment. The more Julia learns about the world, the better!



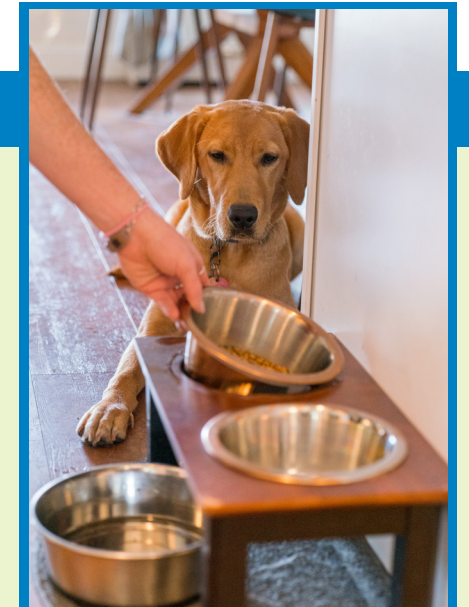
## Sweet and Social

**J**ulia adjusted to her new home quickly and is fast friends with her roommate, Rosie, a retired guide dog. They often play together with another guide dog in training named Holland. Sociability is essential for a working dog, and Julia spends a lot of time with her besties. People are impressed with this sweet girl's good manners when out in public. At a local coffee shop, she is unfazed by all the sights and sounds. Once when a group of noisy kids came into the shop, she sat quietly, wagging her tail. Good job with distractions, Julia!



## // Patience Pays Off

One of the skills Julia practices is impulse control. She has learned to wait patiently for the right cue when Meghan places her food in front of her. Julia waits by her bowl in a *down/stay* position and listens for the magic word—*break!*—that means she can chow down. Meghan expands this training by practicing with alternate B words like *biscuit*, *bacon*, and *books* before Julia hears that correct cue—*break!*



## She's a Champ

Julia races around the fenced yard with the speed of a thoroughbred. Her ears flop up and down as she gets her zoomies out and enjoys puppy life. Once her wiggles are out, Meghan practices basic cues such as *sit*, *stay*, *down*, *close*, and more. But her favorite cue is *come*, when Julia stops what she's doing and runs to Meghan for a treat or a snuggle. As she hears, "Good girl!" Julia wiggles her whole body with delight.

With her quick and curious mind, Julia excels at learning. Time spent on the puppy paw pad helps fine-tune her body alignment and



placement, which is important when walking with a leash or in a harness with a future handler.

What's next for this confident pup? Watch and see how Julia continues her exciting journey toward becoming the dog someone hopes for and needs.



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NEXT PUPDATE  
IN NOVEMBER**