

Archie

GUIDE
DOGS



Pupdate 2

Growing up

Archie is learning about the world

SPONSOR
A PUPPY





Hello, it's Jackie and Andy here, Archie's Puppy Walkers. Welcome to his second Pupdate!

We have loved watching Archie grow and mature over the last few months. Our favourite part of puppy walking is to witness our pups grow and develop as they learn more about the world around them and master new skills. When we are out and about with Archie, people always stop us and want to hear about Guide Dogs; we love sharing what it's like to be a Puppy Walker and the invaluable work that Guide Dogs do.

Life at home

Archie is a very typical Labrador and is controlled by his stomach! Being food-orientated makes him much easier to train as he focuses on what we are asking of him and learns quickly in order to get a tasty morsel! We've spent time ensuring that Archie also learns to be patient around food and so we've practiced 'whistle feeding'. This is where he must wait for the whistle noise before he eats, teaching him to have patience and good food manners.

Over the last few months we've seen Archie develop into a very loving and affectionate dog, following us around the house and always happy to have a cuddle! He has a huge soft toy dog which he loves to snuggle up to as well.



Improving focus

We are pleased to say that Archie's basic obedience is progressing well. His attention span is increasing as he gets older and he's learning to remain focused on us for longer periods of time.

We've been practicing 'find the chair' in puppy class, where Archie signals an empty chair by placing his head on it. This will be a useful skill for his future

owner as Archie will be able to guide them to an empty chair in a café, at a bus stop or on a park bench.

Experiencing the world

We have spent a lot of time building Archie's confidence (Continued overleaf)



around loud noises, such as busy traffic going past us.

He is progressing really well, and this was demonstrated recently when we had some busy building work going on in the house and he wasn't fazed by it at all!

As Puppy Walkers, it is our job to expose Archie to as many different sights, smells and sounds as possible. This is known

as socialisation and ensures he will remain calm and confident in any environment. We have visited local museums, busy carnivals and even took a trip to a football stadium. Archie was so well behaved, and we were so proud of him.

Thank you for sponsoring Archie. Look out for your next Pupdate in June to see how he is progressing on his journey to become a guide dog.

Training – Puppy to qualified guide dog

It takes around 20 months of training to transform a newborn pup into a qualified guide dog.

The pups learn basic commands and are introduced to new surroundings with their Puppy Walker.

They then venture on to Guide Dogs Training School, where they learn

the foundation tasks required of a guide dog. The final stages of training focus on their partnership with a new owner, where they learn specific skills tailored to their owner's specific needs.



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