

The 12 guide dogs of Christmas treasure hunt



Hello

My name is Connie and I am a Golden Retriever. I have been working as a guide dog to my owner Trudy for 5 years. She says I am a special girl who has changed her life as I have given her the confidence to get out and about. I love going to choir practice where I get lots of attention, and I really like meeting lots of lovely kids when I go with Trudy to schools to talk about Guide Dogs.

Fast Fact

You can book one of our Speakers to come along to your school, youth group or community group to learn more about our amazing dogs. You may even get a four-legged friend like Connie joining you!



Registered charity in England and Wales (209617) and Scotland (SC038979). GD0553d 10/21





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Hello

My name is Sam and I am a Labrador. My job is as a Buddy Dog to my best friend Jago, a young boy who has sight loss. Jago used to always say how he felt unlucky that he couldn't see but now he says he's the luckiest boy in the world, because I am his dog, given to him because of his vision impairment.

Fast Fact

In 2020, 52 children with a vision impairment were partnered with a Buddy Dog like Sam, helping improve their confidence and wellbeing





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Hello

My name is Cody and I am a Golden Retriever. My job is as a guide dog mummy to lots of guide dog puppies. I've just given birth to seven new puppies who will all grow up and go on to be life-changing guide dogs one day.

Fast Fact

The most common breed of guide dog is a Labrador crossed with a Golden Retriever





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Hello

My name is Heath and I am Labrador. My job is a working guide dog to my owner Philip. I had a big day out in London as a VIP 'Very Important Pup' when I went to visit the Prime Minister at Number 10 Downing Street! We were there to tell him how important it is for guide dogs like me to be allowed to go everywhere so we can help our owners get around safely.

Fast Fact

There are over 2 million people living in the UK today who have some kind of sight loss





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Hello

My name is Charlie and I am a Labradoodle which is a Labrador crossed with a Standard Poodle. I was named by the pupils of Norwich High Prep and my job is a guide dog in training. Guide dogs likes to train poodle crosses like me because we are nice and tall, and tall people with sight loss need tall guide dogs! We are also great for anyone who is allergic to dogs as we don't shed hair like other dogs.

Fast Fact

The first four guide dogs were trained in 1931 and were called Flash, Folly, Meta and Judy.



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Hello

My name is Hero and I am a Golden Retriever and Labrador cross. My job is a guide dog puppy in training, and I was named by the pupils at Bishops Stortford School who fundraised to choose my name. I will live with my volunteer Puppy Raiser until I am 18 months old, learning all my basic commands before I go to big school where a Guide Dog Trainer will teach me how to be a life-changing guide dog 'hero'.

Fast Fact

Guide Dogs provides over 4,000 tailored Custom Eyes books for children with sight loss including Harry Potter and David Walliams books



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Hello

My name is Hazel and I am a Labrador. My job is a companion dog to my owner Monica who is 92 years old and can't do lots of the things she used to because of her sight loss. It's my job to keep her company, make her feel safe when she is alone and most importantly – make her laugh when I get excited with my favourite toys!

Fast Fact

Guide Dogs breeds over 1,300 puppies every year and we have a National Centre in Leamington Spa which you can visit.



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Hello

My name is Minster and I am a Labradoodle which is a Standard Poodle crossed with a Labrador. My job is a guide dog to my owner Zena, she's a school counsellor. My favourite thing to do is to guide her to work at school, where I get to make friends with children every day!

Fast Fact

Guide Dogs provides free iPads and iPhones for children with sight loss as part of their Tech for All programme.





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Hello

My name is Rainbow and I am a Labrador. My job is a guide dog puppy in training, and I live with my volunteer Puppy Raiser. She takes me to lots of places in the outside world so I can experience different sights and sounds. This helps me get used to lots of noises and places so I can be a good, calm girl when I grow up to be a guide dog and help someone with sight loss get around safely.

Fast Fact

Almost all guide dogs are named by people, community groups, schools and businesses who raise money to Name a Puppy. Rainbow was named by Shinfield Girl Guides Group who did lots of fundraising and chose her cute name.



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Hello

My name is Pippa and I am a Golden Retriever. My job is a guide dog in training, and I was named by the pupils at Newlands St Johns CE Academy who raised money to name me. I wear a brown training harness while I am learning how to be a guide dog and when I graduate, I will get my own special white and yellow guide dog harness.

Fast Fact

Guide Dogs has learning resources for children and young people aged 5-16 including STEM resources and social action projects.





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Hello

My name is Columba and I am a German Shepherd. My job is a guide dog puppy in training, and I started learning when I was a tiny bundle of fluff at just seven weeks old! I live with my volunteer Puppy Raiser who is teaching me things like how to sit and stay and waiting for the whistle for my dinner. My unusual name comes from the pupils at St Columba School who fundraised to choose my name.

Fast Fact

German Shepherds were the very first breed to be trained as guide dogs.



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Hello

My name is Rowley and I am a Labrador. I'm an extra special boy, my job is as a dual-purpose quide dog. This means I work as a guide dog for my owner Megan and I am also a trained assistance dog. When Megan feels poorly, it's my job to tell her to when she might need to lie down in a safe place. I do this by using my nose to smell when she's feeling poorly and tell her with a gentle nudge. I'm also trained to help with other helpful tasks including unloading the washing machine, untying shoelaces and pushing pedestrian crossing buttons!

Happy Christmas from Rowley and all the 12 Guide Dogs of Christmas! We hope you've enjoyed your festive treasure hunt.



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This Christmas, sponsor guide dog puppy Pudding and watch her grow from a six-week-old bundle of fur to a fully qualified guide dog, just like Rowley. You'll get regular Pupdates, photos and much more! Find out how you can sponsor Pudding by scanning the QR code