

For All Fosters From Mollie, the Very Wise Newf



Mollie says:

All of you know that Foster Moms and Dads are a very important part of the Rescue and Re-homing of Newfs (and other dogs). But remember....we dogs also play an important role for our foster brothers and sisters:

We teach them about the buckets and bowls that are always filled with fresh, clean water.

We teach them that there are wonderful smells coming from the kitchen...like when Mom or Dad makes homemade cookies for us.

We teach them that there is always good kibble in the dishes in the evenings...and sometimes an extra special goodie.

We teach them about the hands that reach out to us are for petting and not for punishment; these hands that soothe us when we are unsure of ourselves and our surroundings and the hands that offer a cookie with no repayment necessary except for a wagging tail.

We also teach the fosters that Mom and Dad do expect that they will have "accidents" in the house or in the crate at first; we teach them that they will not be punished for accidents and that Mom and Dad are really more concerned that they are "feeling all right" and that they will be cleaned up and have a clean blanket and crate very soon...and a hug for comfort.

We teach them that the crate is not for bad dogs...it is to keep us safe when Mom and Dad are away...and that Mom and Dad WILL be back.

We teach them about comfortable carpets, tile floors and our very own blankets.

We teach them that combs and brushes and baths and even nail clippers are GOOD things and when we look better we feel better.

We teach them that it is OK to shed and sling slobber and snore and pass gas and all the other things that dogs do....and no matter what we do...we are loved.

We teach them that when Mom and Dad say "NO"....it is to show us something better...it is because they love us; obedience is not for submission...it is part of the growing process.

We teach them about toys....we may get a bit miffed when they take one of OURS...but we are pleased that they are relaxing enough to WANT to play

And....we teach them about love that is given away....Moms and Dads are always sad when fosters move on and many times they wish that they all could stay forever.....but

"Love isn't truly Love until you give it away".

Yes...we are just as much a part of the fostering program as our human Moms and Dads are....and we are very proud of that.

Written (5-17-05) by and used with permission:

Susan E. Aspeotes, on behalf of Molly – her Very Wise Newf

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