

WINTER/SPRING
2023



VIRGINIA BEACH SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

PAWSITIVE PRESS

A Newsletter For Kids



**What To Expect
When You Adopt**

Virtual Activity

**Shelter Pet
Poster Inside**

What to Expect from a Newly Adopted Pet

New things can feel scary. You might have felt nervous on your first day of school or when you moved to a new neighborhood. Just like people, animals can be anxious in new environments - and that includes pets who have recently been adopted!

When you bring home a new pet, they need time to get used to being around people that they don't know very well in a place they've never been before. The new sights, smells, and sounds can be pretty overwhelming!

That's where the Rule of 3 comes in - a guideline of what to expect when your pet first comes home and how you can help them settle in with the rest of the family.



3 Days

To Decompress

- Feels overwhelmed, afraid, or unsure
- May not be comfortable enough to be confident
- May not want to eat or drink
- May shut down or hide



3 Weeks

To Learn Your Routine

- Feels more comfortable
- Figures out their environment and gets into a routine
- Starts showing their personality
- Possibly shows some behavioral issues



3 Months

To Start Feeling at Home

- Finally feels comfortable in their new home
- Begins to build trust and forms a bond with you
- Has a sense of security with your family
- Sets into your routine

Don't forget - every pet is different! Some pets take longer to get settled in their new home and some adjust more quickly. Be patient with your furry friend and give them time to learn that they are safe, loved, and in their forever home.

When to Help Baby Wildlife



Spring is the time of year when lots of baby animals are born. It can be tempting to touch baby animals or try to help them if they are found alone, but in most cases you should let them be! Baby animals rarely need human help, even if their mother isn't nearby. In fact, touching baby wildlife can be very stressful for both the mom and the baby. Here is what you should know:

Baby bunnies are often left alone and their mothers come by two times a day to feed them. Leave them be if you find their hiding place.



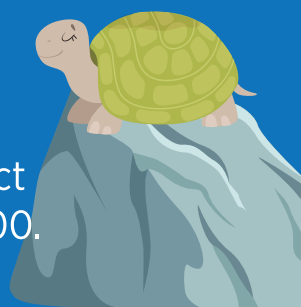
Baby birds with feathers are supposed to be on the ground and should be left alone. If a baby bird doesn't have many feathers, have an adult help you move it back to their nest.

Baby squirrels can fend for themselves most of the time. If you find a baby squirrel that has fallen from a tree and is not injured, it's best to wait to see if his mom returns.

Turtles sometimes need help crossing the road. Have an adult help you move it to the side of the road in the direction it was going. Otherwise, turtles only need help if they have a crack in their shell.



If you have found baby wildlife in urgent need of rescue, please contact Tidewater Rescue at 757-255-8710 or Wildlife Response at 757-543-7000.



VBSPCA
Brodie





Brodie and his brother arrived at the VBSPCA as tiny kittens who were found as strays.

Here's Looking at You, Kids!

Caroline



For the third straight year, Caroline sold homemade dog treats to raise money to purchase holiday gifts for the animals of the VBSPCA! In December she dropped off donations like treats, toys, cleaning supplies, and blankets worth **\$1,104**.

A special thank you to Caroline and the other young donors who made a difference this holiday season with their donations!

Upcoming Fun

You can find fun activities throughout the year on our website! Here is a look at what we have planned in the coming months.

Earth Day Bingo - April

Check off activities that are good for the world around you!

Kindness Calendar - May

Spread some kindness in the community by completing activities all month long!

Change For Change Challenge - June

Collect coins to support the animals.

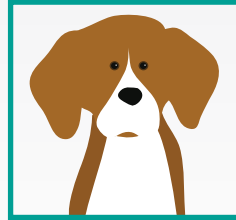
Visit vbspca.com/virtual-activity for fun things to do throughout the year!

CREATE A VBSPCA CAGE CARD



VBSPCA

MEET BELLA



- ✓ Loving/Affectionate
- ✓ Playful/Outgoing
- ✓ Adventurous/High Energy
- ✓ Good With Kids
- ✓ Enjoys Dogs
- ✓ Likes Cats

Learn More About Me:

Bella spent most of her life living outdoors with nobody to love.

She is super excited to find her forever family where she can
spend her days napping in her own bed and getting lots of belly rubs!

HELP US FIND THEM HOMES

Become an Animal Ambassador and help find a forever home for one of our shelter animals! Go to our website and choose one of our adoptable animals (vbspca.com/adoptable-animals). Read the animal's profile and fill out the sheet below to create a cage card. Once you're finished, share it with your friends and family to see if the animal would be a good fit for someone you know!

VBSPCA

My Portrait

My Story:

_____ Pet's Name

CAT / DOG / SMALL ANIMAL

MALE / FEMALE

Age: _____ Breed: _____

Energy Level: _____

Personality: _____

Likes: _____

Dislikes: _____

Fun Fact: _____



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Thank you to our 2023 Humane Education Partner



VBSPCA.COM