

Hello Everyone,

The puppies are no longer little blind grubs. They are developing their personalities, their likes and dislikes and a bit of a pecking order. Everyone's eyes are open and they are all mobile. I thought I might have a couple of weeks of quiet while Mom nursed and raised them. Nope, everyone is climbing out of the whelping box and actually climbing under the gate and out into the living room.

White Tail: WT is my most out going puppy. She is about 13oz and actually has 2 fawn spots on her back. She is also developing a pretty fawn mask over one eye. Once she is about a year old, it will disappear, but may reappear when she is around 5 or 6 months old. WT is always climbing out of the whelping box. She is most likely to be found in the middle of the living room. She is very adventurous.

Orange Tail: OT is my next most adventurous pup. He is also my smallest. He and his sister Red Tail often go back and forth on who weighs the least. Because he is smaller, I have to make sure he isn't pushed out by his two big sisters and his big brother. I give him extra time on Mom. OT loves to follow his sister WT out of the whelping box. It isn't uncommon for him to have walked in between the 2 sides of the big crate and end up lost. I'm amazed on how much he uses his nose to find his ways around. He was the first to have his eyes open, and now he is all over the place.

Green Tail: GT is going to be a very confident and out going puppy. She is a girl who knows what she wants and uses her voice to get it. She trills and grrs. She and WT are my trouble makers. If there is a lost puppy in the living room it is always WT or GT. GT likes to push her smaller siblings aside and get the best position for food. She is big and very out going. I pick her up and she looks me right in the eye. It has a twinkle of someone who is ready to get into trouble, but she is adorable.

Red Tail: RT is just like her brother OT, but not quite as active. She likes to watch what her siblings are doing, and then copy it. She has no problem climbing out of the box and walking around, but she usually waits until another sibling does it. I have found her in the living room, but probably following her Mom or a sibling.

Blue Tail: BT is a big bundle of cuddle. He is continues to be my largest, weighing in at over a pound. He loves to be held and will fall asleep in my arms. While everyone else playing around and barking, he is watching calmly. He was the last puppy to open his eyes. I think it was because he just loves to relax and hang out. Even his picture has his eyes half closed. He just loves to be on a lap or under a heating lamp.

This week's new activity was being introduced to some of our kitties. I have 4 cats who are very dog friendly. All the puppies learn to respect the cats, who teach them to bow their heads and be licked. This is how kitties say hi to one another. As they grow and become more mobile, the cats will walk among them and teach them not to chase or mess with tails.

Starting tomorrow I will be taking the puppies outside for housebreaking. Now that they are mobile and holding their heads up, I want them to have a schedule. I have 2 pee pads for my Momma in the whelping area. Olivia was marking in front of the gate to warn the other dogs.

The puppies were smelling that, and now that they are climbing out of the box, they are pottying on the pee pad. I want them to go outside. I will start with them first thing in the morning, then again at noon, once again at dinner and then at night. We will have accidents, but they will learn the schedule and it will be so much easier as they get older.