GOOD DAWG TRAINING

Yappy Hour:

More Than Puppy Play

A supervised socialization and enrichment experience that helps puppies learn, explore, build confidence, and thrive.



What Is Yappy Hour?

A 45-minute, carefully supervised puppy socialization and enrichment session designed to:

- Build confidence
- Learn appropriate social interactions
- Explore new experiences
- Be comfortable around other dogs and people



Our Space

Best Fit for Yappy Hour

- Especially valuable for puppies who are not yet fully vaccinated and have limited opportunities to safely socialize with other dogs (for example, they currently only meet familiar dogs at home).
- A great confidence builder through positive, manageable experiences.
- Open to young, age-appropriate puppies who meet our vaccination and veterinary guidance.

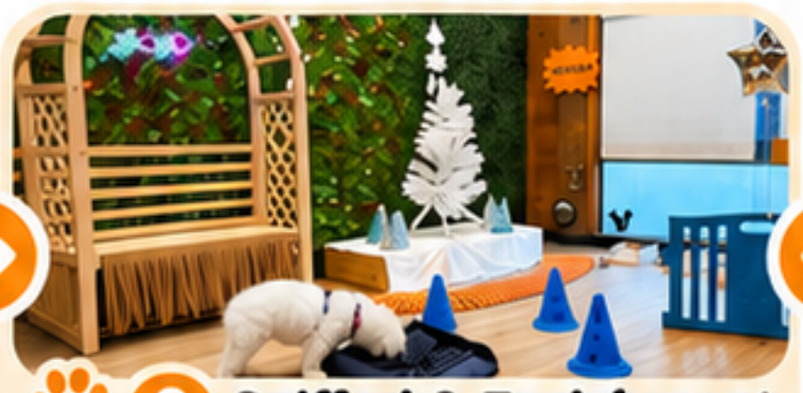
The Yappy Hour Experience

A flexible 45-minute session that blends social play, enrichment, exploration, and rest.



1 Social Play

Supervised, appropriate play and interaction. We watch for communication, play style, and when puppies need a break.



2 Sniffari & Enrichment

A chance to sniff, search for treats, explore textures, and solve simple problems. Puppies learn to be together without the focus being on play.



3 Optional Return

Puppies who are comfortable, interested, and ready may return to social play. Others may choose to keep exploring the Sniffari or simply relax.

4 FREE Yappy Hours

Included with Puppy Start Right!

Puppy Start Right clients receive 4 free Yappy Hours. These are an added opportunity, not a requirement.

You don't have to use all 4!

If your puppy already has plenty of safe, positive play and social opportunities with other dogs, Yappy Hour may not be needed.

A Helpful Play Guideline

Approximately 5 minutes of physical play for every month of age.

2 months	≈ 10 minutes
3 months	≈ 15 minutes
4 months	≈ 20 minutes

This is a flexible guideline, not a target. The puppy's behavior always determines when play should pause.

Every Puppy Has Their Own Pace

- Some puppies may spend more time in the Sniffari area.
- Some may choose to explore independently.
- Others may benefit from watching from a safe area behind a fence.
- We don't expect every puppy to play, and we don't measure success by how much physical interaction takes place.

Children and Adults Are Part of the Learning

Being around people of different ages, sizes, and voices helps puppies build confidence.

- Children are welcome!
- Please refrain from approaching, touching, picking up, or trying to play with the puppies.
- Your calm presence helps puppies learn that people can be nearby without expecting interaction.

Understanding Excitement and Arousal

Puppies can become overexcited, even when they're having fun. We look for signs that it's time for a break, such as:

- Increasingly frantic or intense play
- Persistent chasing or jumping
- Excessive mouthing or grabbing
- Difficulty disengaging
- Ignoring another puppy's signals
- Retreating, freezing, or avoiding interaction

Why We Sometimes End a Session Early

If a puppy becomes too excited, overwhelmed, or distressed to benefit from the experience, we may recommend ending their session early.

- It's not a punishment.
- It doesn't mean the puppy has done anything wrong.
- It's a welfare-based decision to support that puppy's learning and keep the environment positive for everyone.

The Goal

To help develop a dog who can feel comfortable, appropriately, and make good choices around other dogs and people.

Behavior is communication.