

## Abandoned puppy gets job at baseball club

17th May, 2016



An abandoned puppy has been given a new home and a new job. The 7-week-old pup was left at the stadium of the Savannah Bananas baseball team in Georgia, USA

last week. It was found crying in the parking lot. It had no name tag, collar, microchip, or anything else to identify it. The team posted a message on its website about the dog, but the owner did not come forward. The president of the team, Jared Orton, decided he would adopt the puppy and named her Daisy. The lucky pup also has a new job. She is now the team's official 'bat dog'. The job of a bat dog is to take baseball bats to players, collect balls on the baseball field and please the crowd.

Mr Orton spoke about meeting Daisy for the first time. She looked very tired and a little lost. Orton said: "We took Daisy to the vet and aside from being hungry and dehydrated, she was in pretty good health." He told reporters that although she has the job of bat dog, she might be a little too small to hold a bat in her mouth. He said: "We aren't sure how big she'll get, so it's hard to say if she'll be able to pick up a bat or just coach first base." He added that she will become a regular feature at the ballpark and will be very popular with fans. She will also greet visitors every day at the team's office. Mr Orton said finding Daisy was her fate. He said: "It was just meant to be that we'd have a team dog as part of our staff."

Sources: *abcNews / WashingtonPost / SportingNews*

## Writing

Animals should never be made to work. Discuss.

## Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

abandoned / puppy / stadium / baseball / stadium / identify / president / crowd / tired / meeting / list / vet / hungry / dehydrated / good health / coach / regular / ballpark

## True / False

- The abandoned puppy was just 7 months old. T / F
- The name of the baseball club is the Savannah Bananas. T / F
- The puppy was micro-chipped. T / F
- The puppy now has a job as a guard dog at the baseball park. T / F
- The puppy was in good health when she visited the vet. T / F
- The puppy can already hold two baseball bats in its mouth. T / F
- The puppy will greet visitors at the baseball team's office. T / F
- The team president said it was fate that the puppy is with the team. T / F

## Synonym Match

- |            |               |
|------------|---------------|
| 1. left    | a. workers    |
| 2. found   | b. memo       |
| 3. message | c. certain    |
| 4. named   | d. attraction |
| 5. crowd   | e. called     |
| 6. sure    | f. discovered |
| 7. feature | g. destiny    |
| 8. popular | h. spectators |
| 9. fate    | i. abandoned  |
| 10. staff  | j. well liked |

## Discussion – Student A

- How important is the job of a vet?
- What do you think of baseball?
- What kind of life do you think Daisy will have?
- Should more people adopt abandoned pets?
- Why do sports teams have mascots?
- Do you believe in fate?
- Should dogs be used to deliver bats and greet people?
- What questions would you like to ask the baseball team owner?

## Phrase Match

- |                                 |                     |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. An abandoned puppy has been  | a. dehydrated       |
| 2. in the parking               | b. come forward     |
| 3. posted a message             | c. crowd            |
| 4. the owner did not            | d. good health      |
| 5. please the                   | e. our staff        |
| 6. hungry and                   | f. given a new home |
| 7. she was in pretty            | g. every day        |
| 8. she will become a regular    | h. lot              |
| 9. She will also greet visitors | i. on its website   |
| 10. part of                     | j. feature          |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- Do you like happy stories like this?
- Why do people abandon pets?
- Why should all dogs be micro-chipped?
- What do you think of puppies?
- Are puppies cuter than kittens?
- How lucky is the puppy?
- How good do you think Daisy will be at pleasing the crowd?

## Spelling

- the timsuda of the Savannah Bananas
- anything else to eytidifn it
- The team posted a esgmeas on its website
- She is now the team's cfioiafl 'bat dog'
- lltceeo balls on the baseball field
- please the wdocr
- being hungry and ytdrhdeeda
- she was in rpytte good health
- cahoc first base
- she will become a regular raeefut
- She will also greet iosvsitr every day
- part of our tffsa

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. i	2. f	3. b	4. e	5. h
6. c	7. d	8. j	9. g	10. a

## Role Play

### Role A – Dog

You think a dog is the best pet. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): a fish, a horse or a spider.

### Role B – Fish

You think a fish is the best pet. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): a dog, a horse or a spider.

### Role C – Horse

You think a horse is the best pet. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): a fish, a dog or a spider.

### Role D – Spider

You think a spider is the best pet. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): a fish, a horse or a dog.

## Speaking – Pets

Rank these with your partner. Put the best pets at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |            |          |
|------------|----------|
| • dog      | • rabbit |
| • fish     | • horse  |
| • tortoise | • parrot |
| • cat      | • spider |

### Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	F	d	F	e	T	f	F	g	T	h	T
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.