

Jojo's Journey

Chilly Pooch Pops: Recipe for Dogs

Back to School –

Separation Anxiety and Your Pet

Ask Bruce!

In Memory...



Our Purpose: Enhancing the community of Galveston Island by improving the life of animals through exceptional and compassionate veterinary care.

The Animal Connection

Chilly Pooch Pops

Recipe for Dogs

Ingredients:

- 1-quart fruit juice (i.e. apple, lemonade)
- 1 ripe banana, mashed
- ½ cup plain yogurt

1. Blend juice, banana, and yogurt thoroughly in a blender. Pour the mixture into ice cube trays and/or a popsicle container and freeze.

2. Once frozen, serve picnic style on the grass, pool side or in your pooch's bowl.

Makes approx. 48 ice-cube tray sized pops



Photo: YouTube: Chameleons

Jojo's Journey

A journey that started in Hong Kong to a New Home in Galveston... This is Jojo's story

In the heat of our Galveston summer, an English bulldog was found wandering without an owner, and was brought to The Animal Clinic. Luckily, our staff was able to find a microchip, but the microchip was not registered! With no collar, tags, and an unregistered chip, our staff was on the case. We contacted the microchip company and found out that she was microchipped in Hong Kong in 2008! We then contacted all local boarding kennels and veterinary clinics, asking if anyone had called asking about an English bulldog, approximately 10 years old. Unfortunately, no one had any information, so we began to brainstorm. Who else could we call?

Dr. Fistein thought maybe this dog came from a military family? Brittany, our Client Liaison, contacted the U.S. Coast Guard, the Marine Corps Forces Reserve, the Army, the Department of Homeland Security, and the U.S. Consulate Office in Hong Kong, *No luck!*

A few weeks went by as we waited to receive word about our mysterious English bulldog. With the help of our concerned clients, the owner learned that The Animal Clinic



had a lost English bulldog and contacted us. We learned that her name was Jojo, and the owner asked us help find her a new home. It didn't take long for Jojo to find a forever home! Days after the previous owner's phone call, Jojo was adopted to a loving English bulldog owner. She is thriving in her new home, and now has brothers and sisters to play with!

It took Jojo a trip half-way around the world to find her forever home, but The Animal Clinic staff is thrilled that she is happy and settled in her home here in Galveston.

back to school >>>

Separation Anxiety and Your Pet

Does your pet become destructive, soil in the house, or vocalize loudly when you leave your home? If so, your pet may have separation anxiety.



The Clues

1. The behavior happens only when the pet is left alone or anticipating being left alone.
2. The pet follows the owner from room to room and/or constantly wants to be held
3. Destruction is focused on barriers
4. Vocalization during this time is high pitched and repeated yips.

5. The behaviors begin in the first 30 minutes from the time you leave.

6. Defecating, urinating, or vomiting when you leave.

Treatment Options

Training your pet is the best way to solve separation anxiety, and can be broken down into three steps:

Step One: Discourage Hyper Attachment

The owner should always be the initiator of contact with the pet. Although it may be difficult, resist the temptation of petting when approached for play or contact, and be aloof when greeted upon arriving home.

Step Two: Relaxation During Separation

Make sure that you are creating a positive environment while you are gone. Providing a



Photos: Shutterstock

special treat or toy only when the pet is alone and leaving the TV or radio on are a few ways to create a sense of comfort.

Step Three: Desensitization to Separation

The rituals of leaving the home are cues to your pet. Perform these cues at random times throughout the day helps the pet relax and uncouple these cues from the actual leaving.

Axiety medication may be necessary as well.

Consult with your veterinarian at your next visit if you believe your pet has separation anxiety.

In Memory... Melvin Southern, Jr



It doesn't seem possible, it's been over a year since Melvin's passing. He was way too young to leave us. But the saying goes "Only the good die young". Melvin was a part of the Clinic for 16 years, he started working here when he was still in high school.

We still feel his presence and often laugh about some of the pranks he would pull. A master BBQ'er the smells of his lunch were often a torment. He was a good man that was always doing things for others.

With a vote from the staff for the words, we had a bronze plaque made and dedicated it to him this past June. It has a place of honor by the Kennel door "The King of the Kennel".

Ask Bruce!

When you come to The Animal Clinic, more often than not you will see Bruce. He has been around for a long time and has a lot of knowledge about dogs, being a dog, and knowing what dogs like; he is our official taste tester of treats, so you can be assured any treats you buy here have the "Bruce Seal of Approval". He has decided that he needs something new and exciting to fill his days in between napping, treats, and making sure we are all doing our job, he now has his own advise column "Ask Bruce". So if you would like his advise on a animal related topic please email your request to petinfo.TAC@gmail.com and who knows, you may be the next pick for his column next time!



*Dear Bruce,
Every evening, my human makes food that smells AMAZING, but won't let me have any! Instead, my human puts other food in a bowl for me. It's still very good, but I want what my human eats! I tried begging, but it doesn't work. Why won't my human give me their food?*

*Sincerely,
Frieda Bean
A Very Hungry French Bulldog*

Dear Frieda Bean,

I get it. My human makes the best smelling food too! But by spending time with my human at The Animal Clinic, I have learned that humans do this to keep us healthy. Sadly, our bodies do not process some foods the same way as humans, and they can potentially be toxic to us. Not to mention the extra calories human foods add can affect our overall health. Sometimes, eating too much human food can make you lose taste for the food in your bowl and can increase your chances of behavior and health issues in the future. My advice is to stick with the food made just for you in your bowl. That way you'll not only look and feel great, but you'll be able to have a long and happy life with your human. Best of luck!

Until next time! *Bruce*