HAPPY WEEK FOUR BIRTHDAY

This week was all about sound enrichment. Puppies at this stage do not know fear; their brains are simply like sponges. It is our job to provide curated experiences suitable for the developmental stage, which may vary from puppy to puppy in the same litter.

Enter Maestro! Ditch the hard rock or country tunes, and set your tunes to classical music. Numerous studies bear out that dogs listening to classical music spent less time standing or pacing, more readily laying down to rest (when in kennel or shelter situation) and all dogs had lower heart rates when they listened to Mozart and other greats. Puppies exposed to 30-45 minutes of classical music throughout their first 12 weeks have been shown to cope and/or recover from stressful episodes as adults more readily.

Puppies were also exposed to household noises. No excuse not to vacuum the house, garbage disposal and the like. We even had a project installing new stair risers and carpeting in the hallway adjacent to the puppies. Only the slightest head tilt or roll over while sleeping was the only reaction. We also played environmental sound playlists which had sirens, baby crying and general NOISE, first at low volume then turned up fairly loud. We only wanted a slight startle