



DOG DAYCARE LTD.

SOCIALIZATION FUN PLAY EXERCISE

LOVE & HEAD RUBS

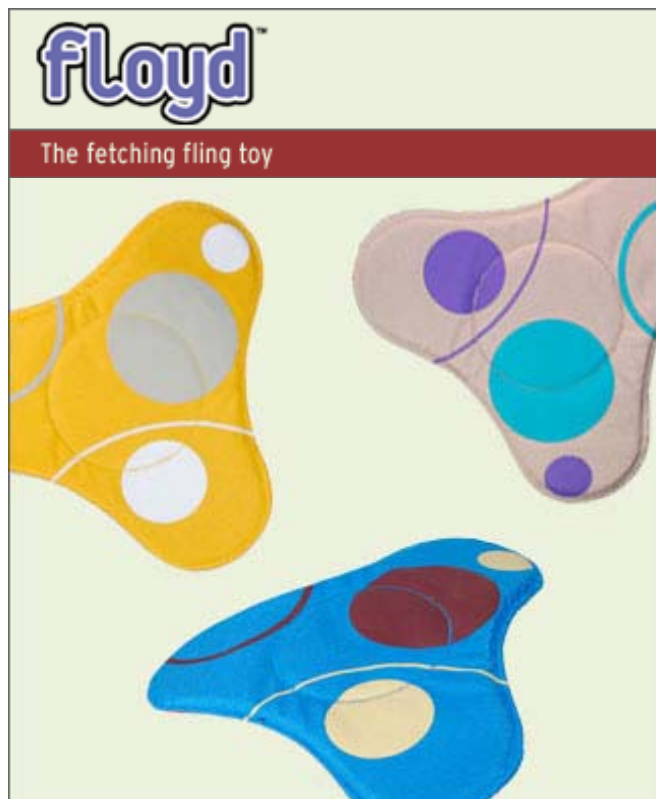
Spot News: March 2007.

- Promotion of the Month: Spring Fling Thing
- Health and Education
- Dogsafe First Aid Course
- Meet Bella
- March Birthdays

March

Promotion of the Month

Spring Fling Thing



Buoyant material
makes water play fun!

Lightweight
construction means
throwing is a breeze!

Soft fabric for gentle
play!

Large (9.5 w) **\$10.00**

Small (6.5 w) **\$5.00**

www.otisandclaud.com

HEALTH AND EDUCATION

Spring + Warmer Weather = FLEAS!!!

WHAT ARE FLEAS?

- a small dark brown insect about 2.5mm in size and can be seen with the naked eye.
- do not have wings and cannot fly but have powerful back legs and can jump great distances
- an intermediate host for the dog tapeworm (an internal parasite) when they ingest the eggs. A dog must swallow an infected flea to acquire the parasite. A human could also acquire tapeworms if they accidentally swallow an infected flea!!
- flea bites can cause flea allergy dermatitis
- they survive by feeding on blood
- prefer temperatures of 18c - 27C and humidity levels of 78-80%
- can be contacted through the environment or from other animals

WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

- an infestation can also be diagnosed by either finding fleas on the dog. Fleas dislike light so look under your dog's belly, around the tail and hindquarters or groin area to spot them or run a fine toothed flea comb through the hair.
- fleas can also be diagnosed by seeing salt and pepper-like, black and white grains about the size of sand in the coat. The pepper is fecal material which is made up of digested blood and when brushed onto wet paper turns a reddish brown. Flea dirt may be your only evidence of a flea infestation but believe the evidence. The salt is flea eggs.

A FLEAS LIFE CYCLE

- consists of four stages: egg, larva, pupa and adult
- the time it takes to complete the cycle depends on the environment and host (your dogs) availability. Under optimal conditions it can take only 14 days!
- a female flea lives for several weeks on your dog in which time she sucks the dogs blood and can lay up 2,000 eggs in a four month life span
- these flea **eggs** fall off of your dog and into his bedding, carpet, and yard and wherever else your dog spends time.
- the eggs will develop where they have landed. They hatch as **larva** which are tiny, worm-like and live in cracks of floors and fibers of carpets. They feed off organic matter such as skin scales and even blood rich adult flea feces.
- the larvae grow, molt and then form a **cocoon** and go into the **pupal** stage that lasts for days or months. They remain in this form until conditions are right then merge as an **adult** and immediately jump up onto a nearby host.
- At any given time, about 1% of the flea population is composed of adult fleas, while 99% remain in the invisible egg, larval and pupal stages.

Prevention is the key to success!! Once fleas have become established, it is essential to kill them on the dog and prevent them from coming back. The following are some of the methods of flea control that prevent fleas from reproducing and therefore break the cycle. Please consult your vet or go online to make an educated choice of which flea control program is best for your dog and you. Here are some to check out: **ADVANTAGE** (www.nofleas.com); **FRONTLINE PLUS** (www.frontline.us.merial.com); **K9 ADVANTIX** (www.k9advantixflea.com); **PROGRAM & SENTINAL** (www.ah.novartis.com).



Do you know what to do if your dog

- 7 choked on a piece of food?
- 7 was drowning?
- 7 stopped breathing?
- 7 severely cut its paw?
- 7 collapsed & their heart stopped?
- 7 ate something poisonous?

What you do between when an injury happens and when veterinary care is available will greatly affect your dog's chances of a full recovery. Sign up for a DOGSafe Canine First Aid course and learn the necessary knowledge and skills that will empower you to take positive action in the event of an emergency.

Next course at a Spot For Spot Dog Daycare is **Saturday March 24th**

Space is limited so register early

www.dogsafe.ca

Meet Bella



Photos by Kate Morris

March Birthdays: Derby Bernier, Leopold Lee, Kenzie Joyce, Mitzi Alekson, Abby Giuliani, Charlie Richardson, Othello Swetnam, Eddy Charrois, Pepper Coyle, Camila Aragon. Come see us for your free day of daycare on your birthday!

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