



PUPPY PALS

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Character Breakdown

- Lorie:** Kind, jovial. A trainer at a school for dogs.
- Snuggles:** The rapping chocolate lab at the dog shelter. Food driven and excitable.
- Cutie:** A blind golden retriever. Loveable pup that was just adopted.

Props Breakdown

- Lorie:**
- Eyeliner
 - Visual aids
- Snuggles:**
- Vest
 - Ears
 - Collar
 - Paw gloves
 - Sunglasses
 - Dog cell phone
 - Rufus puppet
- Cutie:**
- Jacket
 - Ears
 - Collar
 - Paw gloves

Pre-show

- **MOST IMPORTANT:** Before the show begins, the actor who plays Lorie needs to find a teacher volunteer for the “How to Make a Friend” section. Lorie should get the teacher’s name and call on them when this scene comes up.
- Lorie greet children as they enter and get seated.

- If children are restless as you wait for all the groups to arrive, lead them in some songs (i.e., Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, The Itsy Bitsy Spider, or the ABCs).
- Once all the children appear to be seated, check in with the lead teacher to confirm that everyone is there, then begin.

RESPECT LOGO VB

ACTOR PLAYING Lorie

Hello everyone. I'm so happy to see you! Today, we are going to share a play with you. It is called Puppy Pals. Raise your hand if you've ever been to see a play before. That's great. [Alternatively, you can say "Oh wow! So this will be the first time some of you have seen a play!"] Well, a play is when actors, like me, stand in front of an audience, like you, and tell a story. It's make believe, sort of like some TV shows or movies but instead of watching us on a screen, we're here at your school!

In this play, there are going to be three actors, me and my two actor friends. Friends! Can you come join me?

(The other two actors enter from behind the banner/offstage)

My friends are going to be in this play too, and they are going to be using their imaginations to pretend to be...puppies! Let's see if we can help them to pretend to be puppies. Hmm...what do puppies need? Do puppies need puppy ears? Of course, so they are going to put on their puppy ears.

(They put on their hoods)

Do puppies need collars? Yes they do, so they don't get lost!

(They put on their collars)

Now what else do puppies need? I know!

(Pulls pencil out of their pocket)

Puppies need cold, wet, puppy noses! So I'll draw them on.

(Lorie draws them on)

Do they look like puppies? Great! Now they are going to wait off stage until it's time to start the play.

(Actors playing puppies exit behind the banner)

Excellent. We're almost ready, but the last thing we need to do is get the audience ready. The audience is you! Now, what does a good audience look like? I think a good audience looks like friends who are sitting criss-cross on their pockets. They are being very quiet, and using their ears to listen and their eyes to watch, and they are keeping their hands in their laps. Can you show me what a good audience looks like? That is so good! Now, in this play, we might ask you sometimes to help us out or answer some questions. And that's okay! You can answer our questions, but when it's our turn to talk, you're going to show us what a good audience looks like. Do you think you can do that? Great!

Alright, so are you ready to start the play? Okay, I'm going to start the play now – on the count of three. One. Two. Three.

PUPPY PALS SCHOOL VB

"TA-DA" SOUND EFFECT

Lorie

Hello everybody, my name is Lorie and I am a trainer at a school for dogs! The school is called Puppy Pals and at our school we do our best to teach dogs how to be good pals with each other and with people too! And today I am going to need your help, but before I tell you how you can help me, I would like you to meet two dog friends of mine. Would you like to meet some new dog friends? [Audience response] Great! Let's meet our first new friend! Snuggles, are you here?

SNUGGLES

(Entering from behind the banner)

Yep! Right here Lorie!

Lorie

Oh, well hello Snuggles! Snuggles, can you introduce yourself to all of our new friends?

SNUGGLES

Sure thing! Hello everybody, my name is Snuggles. Snuggles the dog! I am a chocolate lab to be specific! And I am from a dog shelter!

Lorie

That's right Snuggles. Have any of you ever been to a dog shelter before? Well, it is a pretty cool place. Snuggles, can you tell all of these nice kids what a dog shelter is?

SNUGGLES

Sure thing Lorie!

(Kneels)

A dog shelter is where dogs who don't have homes go. Sometimes dogs might get lost or they might not have a home. When dogs don't have a home they come to the shelter with hopes that somebody might come to the shelter and adopt them. And I am one of those dogs. I am still waiting for the right person to come to the dog shelter and adopt me so I can go and live with them in a place I can call home.

Lorie

Very good Snuggles!

SNUGGLES

Thanks Lorie! (Crosses to Lorie) Hey Lorie, is it time for lunch/dinner yet?

Lorie

Nope, not quite yet Snuggles, you have to be patient.

SNUGGLES

Okay Lorie, I just love eating so much. Food is just so tasty and delicious and scrumptious and yummy and mmmmmmmmm... Don' t you think, Lorie?

Lorie

You know what I think Snuggles, I think you are a silly dog!

SNUGGLES

Thanks, I know!

(Go offstage)

Lorie

Now I have another dog for you all to meet, but before she gets here I want to tell you something about her that makes her special. Her name is Cutie and Cutie is completely blind. This means that Cutie can't see anything at all with her eyes, so it is important for us all to help Cutie find things and to help her get around so that she can be safe and

happy. Do you think you can help me with that? [Audience response] Okay, here she comes!

(CUTIE enters, wandering about aimlessly)

CUTIE

Hey Lorie, are you here? Can you say something please so I can find you easier?

Lorie

Of course Cutie, I am right over here.

CUTIE

(Goes to Lorie, sits/stands next to her)

Thanks! Hi Lorie!

Lorie

Why hello Cutie! I have some new friends here that I would like you to meet.

CUTIE

New FRIENDS!?!?! There are new friends here?!?

Lorie

There sure are! Do you want to tell our new friends a little bit about yourself, Cutie?

CUTIE

Totally! But I am not sure where these new friends are. New friends, where are you? [Audience response] Oh, there you are! Can I get all my new friends to tell me hello on the count of three? Ready? One, two, three! [Audience response] Wow, it sounds like there are A LOT of new friends out there! Hello, my name is Cutie and I am a golden retriever. And I'm blind, which means I can't see anything.

Lorie

And that makes you special, Cutie! And you have something very new and exciting happening at your house, don't you Cutie!

CUTIE

Oh yeah! Listen to this everybody! My owners are thinking about getting... another dog! I haven't been around very many other dogs before, so I'm really excited, but I'm kind of nervous too because my owners said they want me and this new dog to be as close as sisters. And I am worried that I won't know how to treat this new dog as a best friend and sister.

Lorie

Well, hopefully today, we can learn some things so that you can be the best friend and sister possible!

CUTIE

Oh man, that would be nice! Thanks Lorie!

(Crosses upstage, plays with her doggy cellphone)

Lorie

Well, as you can see I have two very special dog friends here today and I think they are both very good dogs, don't you think? [Audience response] And here at the Puppy Pals School we teach dogs important things like how to make a friend and how to stop and think. Do you think you can help me teach these dogs about these important things?

(Audience response, during this section Cutie has gotten a call on her doggy cell phone in the background, she comes running up as she hangs up)

Oh good!

CUTIE

Hey Lorie! Hey Lorie! Hey Lorie!

Lorie

Yes Cutie?

CUTIE

I just got a call on my doggy cell phone from my owners and do you know what they told me they picked up today?

Lorie

What's that Cutie?

CUTIE

MY NEW SISTER!

(She throws a mini excitement fit)

Lorie

Wow, that is very exciting Cutie!

CUTIE

Yeah.

(Excitement turning into nervousness)

Oh man!

Lorie

Well, this is certainly a big day in your life Cutie! Can you tell us how you are feeling about it?

CUTIE

Well, I am excited... but I am also really nervous.

Lorie

Why are you nervous Cutie?

SNUGGLES

(Barging in and interrupting)

Lorie! Lorie! There you are! I was wondering if it was time for lunch/dinner yet?

Lorie

Why hello Snuggles! No, it is not time for lunch yet, but it is almost time for your treat.

SNUGGLES

Sweet! I love treats!

Lorie

But first I would like you to meet Cutie. Cutie, Snuggles, Snuggles, Cutie.

CUTIE

(Facing the wrong direction, sticking her paw out to shake)

It's very nice to meet you.

SNUGGLES

Ummm...

(To Lorie)

What is she doing?

CUTIE

Oh, I'm sorry, I'm so embarrassed.

(Turns around still facing the wrong way, sticks her paw out again)

It's very nice to meet you Snuggles!

SNUGGLES

(Laughing)

Lorie, I think this dog is weird.

(CUTIE whimpers and crumples to the floor)

SNUGGLES

(To audience)

What is wrong with this dog?

Lorie

(Firmly)

Snuggles, I think we need to stop and think right now about some of the things you have learned here at the Puppy Pals School.

CUTIE

See Lorie, this is why I am nervous to meet my new dog sister, I'm afraid she might think I am weird. I can't help it that I'm blind, but it sometimes makes people think that something is wrong with me. I'm not weird and nothing is wrong with me, I just can't see, but that doesn't mean I don't have feelings.

SNUGGLES

(Kneels next to Cutie)

You can't see?

CUTIE

Nope. Not a thing.

SNUGGLES

Whoa, I thought that all dogs could see. That would be hard not to be able to see.

(Suddenly very concerned)

How do you know where treats are?!?

CUTIE

Just gotta use my nose and trust that someone will help me find them.

SNUGGLES

Wow, I'm sorry Cutie. (Helps her up) That was not very nice of me to say that you were weird. I just didn't know. I am sorry I hurt your feelings.

Lorie

Oh, Snuggles, that was a very good apology, but isn't there something else you can do so this doesn't happen again?

SNUGGLES

You mean, when I meet a puppy who's different from me? Oh! I could use the stop and think routine; you remember that one, right Lorie?

Lorie

Of course Snuggles, I think that is a great idea! Do you want to tell our friends here about it!

SNUGGLES

Okay! Cutie, you gotta hear this, it is so awesome!

CUTIE

Oh, okay!

Lorie

Hey Cutie, are you okay with me coming over to help you do the routine?

CUTIE

Sure thing, Lorie!

SNUGGLES

The stop and think routine goes like this...

(Lorie helps Cutie do the routine)

Whenever you are feeling really mad or sad or excited or confused (Snuggles acts out the emotions) you can do the stop and think routine, and it goes like this: First put your paws up and say Stop. Then take a deep breath, in through your nose, and out through your mouth.

(Takes deep breath)

Next, point to your brain and say “Think”. Then, let the wheels turn round and say “How can I help?” That way you can stop and think to yourself, why am I feeling this way and what can I do about it so that I don’t hurt anyone or their feelings?

Lorie

Very good Snuggles! I know I have used the stop and think routine before when I have been upset. It did a good job of calming me down so I could make good choices instead of hurtful choices. Do you all want to practice the Stop and Think routine with me and my puppies?

(Audience Response, Lorie kneels down close to the audience)

Okay, let’s practice! First put your paws up and say “Stop”. Then take a deep breath, in through your nose, out through your mouth.

(Takes deep breath)

Next, point to your brain and say “Think”. Then, let the wheels turn round and say “ How can I help?” Let’s try it one more time all together, okay? Stop, (breathe) think, how can I help?

Great job! Okay we're all going to be actors now and actors pretend, right? So we're all going to pretend to have big feelings. And we're just going to use our faces like a mask. Alright, this time we're going to pretend to have a big feeling, so on the count of three, I want to see your mad faces - remember, just your faces. No bodies or voices - okay One. Two. Three. Yeah, I'm feeling mad. I wanted to sit by my best friend at lunch today but they’re not here..And sometimes when I'm mad, I'm not nice to others, So I better do the stop and think routine right **NOW**. Stop. Take a deep breath, in through your nose, and out through your mouth and say Think, "How can I help?" And while we're doing that, we're thinking of ways that we can make sure that everyone stays happy.

Okay, that was really good friends, but I think my puppies need a little more practice. This time let's do one where we make sad faces. Okay, sad faces on the count of three - faces only, no bodies or voices - ready? One. Two. Three. Oh, I'm so sad. And sometimes when I'm super sad I say mean things, but instead I'm going to do the stop and think routine right **NOW**. Stop. Take a deep breath, in through your nose, and out through your mouth and say Think, "How can I help?"

[Optional third practice] Oh, you guys are so good at this, let's practice one more time. This time, let's see our excited faces. Alright One. Two. Three. Excited faces. Yes! Oh, I'm so excited, but sometimes when I'm super excited, I bounce around and bump into people and I might hurt them, so I'm going to do the Stop and think routine right **NOW**. Stop. Take a deep breath, in through your nose, out through your mouth and everybody say Think, "How can I help?" And we're thinking of the helpful choices that we can make to keep everybody safe and happy.

SNUGGLES

Hey Lorie! While we were stopping and thinking I thought of another way that I can help Cutie. Wanna hear it?

Lorie

Of course, Snuggles!

SNUGGLES

Hey Cutie, while we were stopping and thinking, I thought that if you ever need help looking for treats, I will help you as best I can!

CUTIE

Really?

SNUGGLES

Oh for sure.

CUTIE

And if you can't find them with your eyes, I'll use my nose to help **you** find them!

SNUGGLES

Yeah! And I bet we can get all of those people out there to help us find treats too! Would you all help Cutie and me find treats if we couldn't find them? Thanks everybody! Treats are like the best thing ever and every dog should get treats. No matter if they are blind or not blind, they are still dogs and dogs LOVE treats.

Lorie
(Standing)

That's very kind to offer to help everybody. We're all different aren't we?

SNUGGLES

Yes, this is true! I am different from many other dogs because I love to sing and dance.

(They demonstrate singing/dancing)

That is what makes me different from most other dogs.

Lorie

And just like all dogs are different from each other, people are all different too. I'm different because I have [color of hair] hair and [color of eyes] eyes. I am also different because I really like [favorite food and favorite game]. And I know that all of these things that make me different from other people also make me special.

CUTIE

Yeah, and I have heard that it's not about how you look on the outside, but what you do that makes you a good dog or a good person!

SNUGGLES

Yeah! And I can tell you are a pretty good dog Cutie!

CUTIE
(Standing)

You really think so, Snuggles?!

SNUGGLES
(Standing)

Oh for sure! I could learn a thing or two from you!

Lorie

Very nice Snuggles and Cutie, thank you for getting along so well!

CUTIE

I just hope that me and my sister can get along and be friends too!

SNUGGLES

Wait a sec! Did you just say something about... making new friends?

CUTIE

Oh yeah! I need to make friends with my new dog sister that my family just picked up!

SNUGGLES

Well after being in the shelter for so long I have kind of become an expert in the friend making business... perhaps I can be of some assistance. Let's break it down...

(Lorie and Cutie start a simple, beatbox rhythm)

You want to make a friend? Soon you will see,
You made a good choice in asking me,
What might be the best way in town,
To make sure you have friends all around.

There are four steps that you must take,
If a good friend is what you wanna make,
So why don't we go over them now,
And if you listen up then you will know how.

To make a friend.

Step One:

Pick a new friend and a time to meet,
Make sure it's a time that's super sweet,
Because if you pick a time that's kinda bad,
You might end up feeling really sad.

Without a friend.

Step Two:

Walk up to your friend and please stay calm, cuz
If you're too loud they might think you're a bomb,
Because when people are loud and scream,
Others might think they are kinda mean.

And have no friends.

CUTIE

Oh no!

SNUGGLES

Don't worry, it gets better!

(The beat resumes, Snuggles dances)

Step Three:

Introduce yourself by saying your name,
And if they're friendly they'll do the same
But if they won't play your game,
Go ahead and ask, "Hey, what's your name?"

And let's be friends.

Step Four:

The last thing that you want to say,
Is "Hey, you wanna come out and play?"
Make sure you say thank you and please,
And these four steps are the main keys.

To Make.
Some.
Friends.

(Lorie and Cutie applause)

Thank you very much!

CUTIE

Wow Snuggles... You sure do know a lot about making friends!

SNUGGLES

Well, I have had lots of practice.

Lorie

That's right! Cutie, would you like to practice making a friend today so that when you get home and see your new sister you will know how to make a friend.

CUTIE

Oh sure! I'd love to practice, but it would be nice to hear somebody else do the steps first so I can learn from them.

Lorie

Okay Cutie! [Name of teacher to help], can you come up and help us learn how to use the right steps in making a new friend? Why thank you very much! Okay everybody, let's see how good of a job [Name of teacher] does. So now let's practice making a new friend. Snuggles, will you help us, please?

SNUGGLES

Sure thing, Lorie!

Lorie

Okay, now let's go through our four steps. Step One, pick a new friend and find a time to meet them. Snuggles, is now a good time to meet you?

SNUGGLES

Yes, I find this to be an excellent time to make friends!

Lorie

Okay, Step Two; walk up to the new friend slowly and calmly.

(Lorie gestures to the teacher to move towards Snuggles)

Okay, great! Step Three, say hello! Tell your new friend your name and wait for them to tell you their name.

(Lorie gestures to the teacher. Teacher says their name)

SNUGGLES

Hello [name of Teacher], my name is Snuggles!

Lorie

And Step Four, ask your new friend if they can come and play with you, please?

(Lorie gestures to the teacher, teacher does so, Snuggles agrees to play)

Good job! That was a great way to ask somebody to be your friend. Give [name of teacher] a round of applause! Thank you for your help! Did you hear what a great job [name of Teacher] did, Cutie?

CUTIE

Yeah, I liked that a lot! I bet you have lots of friends! Can I try it now? I am excited to try and make a new friend.

Lorie

Go ahead.

CUTIE

Okay! Four steps. #1-Pick a new friend and find a time to meet them. Well, I want to meet Snuggles right now, hey Snuggles, is now a good time?

SNUGGLES

You betcha!

CUTIE

Okay, step #2-Walk up to the new friend slowly and calmly.

(Cutie turns around in confusion)

Hey friends, can you point me in the right direction? Is Snuggles over here? Is he here? Is he here? Thanks! (she faces left, then front, then right).

(She repeats to herself)

CUTIE

Step #2-Walk up to the new friend slowly and calmly.

CUTIE

Step #3-Introduce yourself and then let the other person introduce themselves. Hello, my name is Cutie.

SNUGGLES

Well, hello Cutie, I am Snuggles.

CUTIE

It is very nice to meet you.

SNUGGLES

It's nice to meet you too.

CUTIE

Step #4 - Ask them to play using nice words like please and thank you. Snuggles, would you like to play with me... please?

SNUGGLES

Sure thing!

(Snuggles and Cutie circle each other and then themselves, barking excitedly)

CUTIE

I did it! I did it! I did it!

SNUGGLES

Wow, good job, Cutie! Now we are both experts at making friends!

Lorie

Didn't she do a great job everybody? [Audience response] So Cutie, do you think you could try that with your new sister?

CUTIE

Oh boy, oh boy! I bet so! I am super excited to try, thanks for helping me everybody! Lorie, is it about time for us to go, because I want to go home and use this right now on my new sister!

Lorie

Yes, Cutie, it is time to go! But first, can you each tell me some things you learned today!

CUTIE

I learned that Snuggles is good at making friends.

He did a nice job singing about finding a time to meet a new friend, walking up to them slowly and calmly, telling them his name and waiting for the other person to do the same, and inviting them to come and play using words like please and thank you.

SNUGGLES

And I learned that whenever you are feeling really mad or sad or excited or confused, you can do the stop and think routine. Will you do it with me one more time? First put your paws up and say Stop. Then take a big deep breath in through your nose and out through your mouth. Next, point to your brain and say “Think”. Then, let the wheels turn round and say “ How can I help?” And then you can stop and think to yourself, why am I feeling this way and what can I do about it so that I don’t hurt anyone or their feelings?

Lorie

And I learned that you are all very special friends! You did a great job helping me today with my special puppy pals. Thank you for helping, new friends!

SNUGGLES

Yeah, thanks everybody but now it’s time to get back to the shelter because it’s almost treat time!

CUTIE

And it's almost time for me to get home and meet my new sister!!!

Lorie

Yes, thank you all very much! Now it’s time to say goodbye to the puppies! Bye bye!

(CUTIE and SNUGGLES exit behind the banner, Lorie stays on)

ACTOR PLAYING Lorie

And that was our play! Thank you so much everyone for being such a good audience! We learned so much didn’t we?! The Stop and Think Routine and we learned how to make a friend!

(Take 3-4 answers. Feel free to coach them in their answers since they are so little. Also, because they are so little and their voices are so small, be sure to repeat their answers back to them so the whole group can hear.)

So just to help you remember...we’re going to have Snuggles and Cutie come back out here to review some things we learned real quick! Cutie and Snuggles, will you bring one of our friends out to show everyone how to make friends using the four steps we learned?

(CUTIE and SNUGGLES enter, CUTIE holds up Rufus puppet, can ad lib here, Lorie exits to grab ukulele)

SNUGGLES

Step 1, pick a new friend and a time to meet. I want to meet Rufus the RESPECT dog, and now seems like a good time. Step 2, walk up to the new friend slowly and calmly. Step 3, Introduce yourself and let them introduce themselves. Hello Rufus, I'm Snuggles!

CUTIE

(In the stuffed animal's voice)

Hello Snuggles!

SNUGGLES

Step 4, ask the new friend if they would like to come play using nice words like please and thank you. Would you like to come play with me, please?

CUTIE

(In the stuffed animal's voice)

Of course!

ACTOR PLAYING Lorie

That was great! Okay everyone, now we are going to end our time together by singing a super fun song about being kind and making friends. It's called the RESPECT song! I want you to do your very best and sing along if you can, but your teacher will also get a video where you can learn the song later too if you want! Ready friends?

RESPECT Song lyrics:

When you're alone and you're feeling blue.

Please don't forget it's not only you.

So be that leader, be that friend.

Be kind to others, not just pretend.

So be that leader, be that friend.

Be kind to others, not just pretend.

So be that person, who shows their might.

Respect for others, and do what's right.

So be that leader, be that friend.

Be kind to others, not just pretend.

So be that person who shows their might.

Respect for others...

And do what's right! And do what's right! And do what's right!

Lorie

(They all clap)

Thank you all so much! Now it's time for Cutie and Snuggles and me to go to another school where we are going to teach other kids about how to make friends and how to stop and think. So we have to say goodbye now. We hope you have a great rest of your day! Bye friends!

(They exit, puppies bark)

OUTRO CARD HERE