

The DogChannel Newswire (03-04-10)

Crufts prepares for the big show; researchers hope to teach kids to respect animals; other news.

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Crufts Prepares to Show Off Working Dogs and Mutts

A week before the start of this year's Crufts, which promises to focus more closely on working animals and even mixed breeds, the Kennel Club showed off a series of assistance animals for disabled people and military explosives-sniffing dogs, rather than a shampooed and groomed champion, The Guardian (U.K.) reports.

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Researchers Hope Software Teaches Kids to Respect Animals

Dog trainers hear it all the time from shaken parents whose children have been bitten by the family pet: The dog just snapped. A group of researchers who say that's almost never the case are now testing software aimed at teaching young children how to behave around animals in hopes of cutting down on the number of dog bites, ABC News reports.

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Pop Star Lily Allen's Pup Roughed Up

Pop singer Lily Allen's dog recently had a bit of a hard time. She posted a picture on her Twitter account of her pup, Mabel, after she'd been beat up on a bit by "bigger dogs." The singer wrote: "Mabel got beaten up by bigger dogs. She went to doggy hospital, but she's OK," The Baltimore Sun reports.

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It's Important to Grieve When a Pet Dies

Many people refuse to discuss the death of their pets because the pain is unbearable. They want to keep quiet about it, hoping the sadness will dissipate over time. Perhaps, if it were discussed more openly, they could navigate through the pain a little better. They would understand their situation more clearly and speed the healing process, The Vancouver Sun reports.

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