**Info Sheet and Suggested Interview Questions for *Puppy Socialization: What It Is and How to Do It***

**Authors:** Marge Rogers and Eileen Anderson

**Who are we?**

Marge Rogers is a nationally certified professional dog trainer and behavior consultant. She is the owner of [Rewarded Behavior Continues](https://rewardedbehaviorcontinues.com/) and offers services locally and virtually to clients all over the country. Eileen Anderson is an award-winning dog writer and blogger. She is the author of [*“Remember Me? Loving and caring for a Dog with Canine Cognitive Dysfunction.”*](https://dogdementia.com/dog-dementia-book/) Eileen also writes the award-winning blog, [Eileenanddogs](https://eileenanddogs.com/) .

**What is the book about?**

The authors explain the critical and magical time in puppies’ development when they are more open to new experiences or being “socialized.” Socialization is more than just showing a puppy the world. Rogers and Anderson don’t just teach owners about socialization through their writing. They show them, with real-life training videos. Most of the videos were taken during actual training sessions with puppy owners and their puppies.

The chapter on canine body language applies to all owners, regardless of the age of their dog. For example, most people don’t know that a dog that yawns may be showing symptoms of fear and anxiety. Or that when a dog shows his belly, he isn’t always asking for a belly rub. Understanding canine body language improves the bond between dogs and the owners who love them.

**Suggested Interview Topics and Questions**

**About Socialization**

* What is socialization? (Marge usually handles this)
* Doesn’t this socialization stuff just happen automatically? (Marge usually handles)
* You have a lot about dog body language in the book. Why is that? (Marge or Eileen)
* What happens when you don’t socialize a puppy? (either)
* Has either of you ever had a dog that wasn’t socialized? (both Marge and Eileen have and can tell different stories)
* What about feral puppies? (Eileen)
* What if you get a puppy as an adolescent and you don’t know if it’s been socialized? (Marge or Eileen)
* Shouldn’t you just be training your puppy? What if he learns bad habits while you are socializing him? (Marge)
* You have an entire chapter dedicated to body language. Why is that? (Marge)
* Do dogs really not like belly rubs? (Marge)
* You spent a lot of time talking about using food and play during socialization. This seems like a new concept. Why the change? (either)
* Doesn’t every puppy take treats? Are they really learning about the world if they are just focused on the treats? (Marge usually handles this)

**About Writing the Book Together**

(these are less important than the topic itself but can be used in longer interviews or for color)

* Whose idea was the book? (either)
* How long did you work on it? (either)
* How did you write it together when you live 2,000 miles apart? (either)
* How did you divide up the work? (Eileen usually)

**Marge**

* What are your credentials?
* What does a behavior consultant do?

**Eileen**

* Is writing your fulltime job?
* What other books or projects are you working on?

**Helpful information for us:**

* Will our time together be live or recorded?
* Who is your audience?
* Duration of interview?
* Would you like photos and/or video clips?

**Quotes from the Book**

“The goal of socialization isn’t merely exposing your puppy to new things. The goal is to help your puppy form positive associations, using food and play, with the things he’ll encounter during the course of his lifetime.”

“No belly rubs during greetings.”

“Canine Body Language: The Missing Piece of the Socialization Puzzle”

**In praise of the book:**

“Marge Roger’s and Eileen Anderson’s new book *Puppy Socialization: What It Is and How to Do It* had me at “Remember: it’s a human tendency to want to show the world your puppy, but that is not the same as showing your puppy the world! Resist the temptation to let your puppy become a magnet for human attention. The last thing you want to do is let him get overwhelmed and frightened.” Then, the book continued to deliver beautiful information and ideas throughout.

*Puppy Socialization* will teach people all they need to know about socializing their puppies so they develop into the very best possible versions of themselves. The guidance in the book offers great advice for novice puppy owners and detailed ideas for old pros at raising puppies. With clear instructions covering all kinds of scenarios along with over 120 photos and videos this book is practical, helpful and fun to read.

I don’t claim to be psychic, but I have a feeling this book is going to be read and recommended by heaps of dog professionals and dog lovers who will be eager to spread the word. It’s the perfect resource for everyone who has anything to do with raising well-adjusted, happy puppies, and its publication is good news all around!

If more people read this book and do what it advises, there will be more happy, well-adjusted dogs on the planet, and that’s about the greatest future I can imagine.” **Karen B. London, PhD, CAAB, CPDT-KA, author of *Treat Everyone Like a Dog: How a Dog Trainer’s World View Can Improve Your Life***

“This is the most definitive resource on all things Socialization that you could ever ask for. Marge and Eileen, with their considerable experience, wisdom and humor, have given us a true gift – a one-stop-shopping book that offers essential information for first time puppy owners and seasoned hobbyists alike. Whether you are raising a puppy for sports or work, or simply for being an enjoyable companion that you can take anywhere, what you need is in here. I will be referring all students and friends to this book from now on. Beautifully done.” **Leslie McDevitt, MLA, CDBC, CPDT-KA, Level 2 TAGteach Certified, author of the *Control Unleashed* series of books**

“Marge and Eileen’s new book satisfied my love of learning. With equal parts compassion and expertise, their book offers accessible insight to a topic crucial to the well-being of dogs and their families. Puppy Socialization: What It Is and How to Do It is the perfect tool for anyone with a love for dogs and those who care about the human-animal bond. I can’t wait to incorporate this resource into staff training at our veterinary hospital.” – **Dr. Cathy Kreis, DVM, Medical Director, Appalachian New River Veterinary Associates.**

“Wondering how to effectively socialize your puppy: You’ve been told it’s really important, right? Up until now, a comprehensive guide to this essential task has been lacking. Marge and Eileen have created a wonderful resource to help both novice and experienced dog owners alike accomplish socialization of your puppy or dog with confidence! They have done a wonderful service to canines and their owners by writing this book. The explanations and instructions use sound science-based information and are broken down into manageable easy to read and understand steps. In addition, they’ve also included invaluable resources in the way of video and photo links to help the reader learn all about dog body language and see real-life training in action. These links will absolutely take your learning experience to the next level. Your puppy deserves the best start in life. This book allows you to provide it!” – **Alanna Lowry, DVM**