

# Academy of Language Studies

## UiTM Cawangan Pulau Pinang

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# e-Lingua

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AKADEMI PENGAJIAN BAHASA  
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA



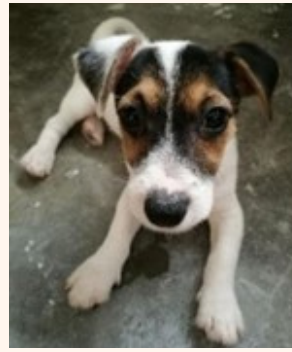
Cawangan Pulau Pinang  
Kampus Permatang Pauh



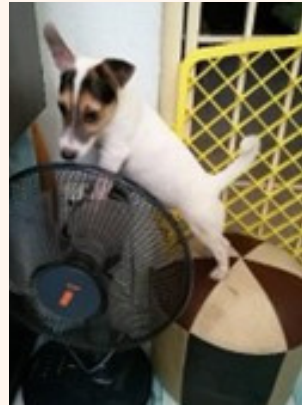
# WHAT IS IT LIKE TO BE A FUR-PARENT?

Giving care to a pet is like giving care to a human child. Someone would say taking a role as a fur parent before becoming a real parent is a good practise that nurtures motherly love. Well, I did not give much thought when I first brought Lucky home. It was simply "Aw! My childhood's dream finally comes true! I have got myself a pet dog!" Up until the first week after I brought a puppy home, that was a nightmare!

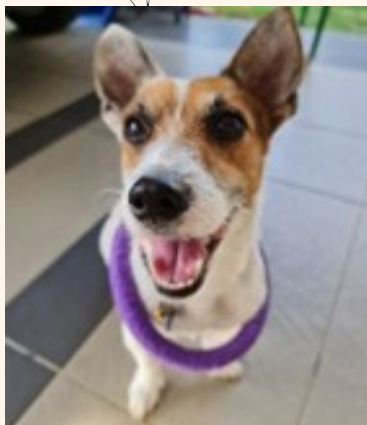
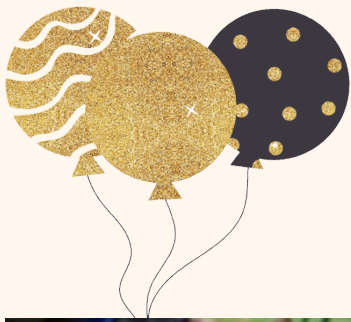
It was 7 years ago, and Lucky was still a 3-month-old puppy. He (I prefer to call my fur baby "he" instead of "it") is a Jack Russell Terrier with intense curiosity and adventurous nature. He is a great escape artist who can climb, jump, or dig under the cage. Imagine that you are walking up to your front door and finding an escaping puppy pooped all over himself, pee all over the place, and your USB cable was badly chewed. What are you going to do? The naive puppy would wag his tail and give you a friendly greeting as usual, unaware that he had done something wrong. You must bear in mind that at that point, it would be pointless to scold or punish him because he would not understand the reason and would likely have forgotten what he had done.



3-month-old Lucky  
(Jack Russell Terrier)



Lucky is trying to escape

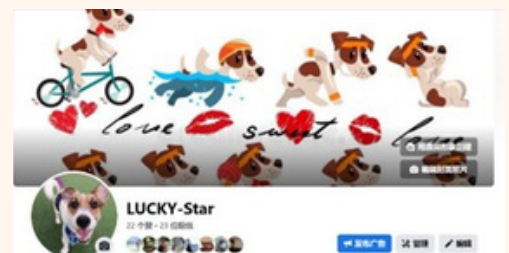


7-year-old Lucky

There was when I began to learn how to raise a fur baby; it is similar to how you would handle a child. First, I restrict my pet's access to certain areas inside or outside of the house. Second, be smarter than my dog by foreseeing what he might do while I am away and taking preventative action before it is too late. Third, set rules, keep an eye on him, and say "No!" or "Good boy!". Fourth, regular training such as fixing his urine spot and teaching him to understand simple commands. However, positive discipline is both kind and firm at the same time. This is how I have built a strong bond with my pet.

Now, Lucky is a 7-year-old adult dog. I can sense his love for me since he likes to cuddle and follows me everywhere. Although he sometimes behaves improperly in order to get my attention, most of the time, he is obedient, steady, and capable of understanding my verbal or nonverbal commands. Certainly, as a fur parent, I love him with all my heart. I live with him, play with him, travel with him, share food with him, celebrate his birthday, just like my own child. I have even created a Facebook page to record all the wonderful times we had together.

My life is greatly enriched by having a pet, especially learning how to become a parent. Pets are the only ones who love us unconditionally. The purpose of any pets' life is to make their owner happy, and I think pets deserve our love too. If you are a pet lover and are prepared to take on the responsibility of caring for one, let's get yourself a pet. You will find a sense of purpose being a fur parent.



Facebook page

