

# My Pet is a Good Friend to Me Because...

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My dog is a buddy to me in MANY ways. My family adopted a German Shepherd from the Oregon Humane Society about a year ago. His name is LoBo, Spanish for wolf. LoBo helps me in many ways. When I am mad, sad, upset, when I need to tell someone a secret or get something off my chest, I go to LoBo. I 'fess up to him and tell him all the bad stuff I have done, like how I hid FOUR packages of Oreos in my bed.

When I need to laugh or be happy, he cheers me up by doing something super funny like chasing his tale or running super-fast up and down the hallway. Whenever I am crying and need some comfort, he comes up and licks my cheeks or lies down next to me until I stop. He seems to know when I need him. All this is really helpful, and what good friends do.



I have lots of fun with LoBo. I take him on walks, which gives us both the exercise we need to stay healthy. When I need something to do, I can brush him, talk to him, or dress him up (so long as my brother isn't around), and he doesn't mind. When I need to memorize poetry, he is the perfect audience. He is quiet when I practice and only falls asleep every once in a while. When I throw the ball for him, he gives me a goofy grin that says, "I love you! Throw it again!" This really makes my day!

LoBo teaches some things, too, like responsibility and perseverance.

Responsibility: I need to take care of him all the time.

Perseverance: Even when I don't want to take care of him (take him on a walk when it is too cold out), I do because I know that he needs this and he depends on me to provide this for him. When I take LoBo on walks, he teaches me how to push myself when I run up hills. Friends teach each other and help each other out. That makes him my friend.

LoBo also brings back fun memories, which is also something friends do. I remember when we first got LoBo. I couldn't stop looking at him. That day was the day we finally became civilized humans! It was the best day of my life (so far) and I will never forget it.

I think I can honestly say that LoBo is my buddy.

