Socialization

When a dog is well-socialized, it means they fit into our society and know their place in the "pack." As a result, dogs interact better with other dogs, are more respectful of others, and are less reactive to unusual sights, sounds, and smells.

How can you properly socialize your dog?
- Create a structured hierarchy
- Expose your dog to a variety of different environments, people, and dogs

Understanding the "Pack Mentality"

Dogs are pack animals, which means:
- No two individuals are equal
- Pack members instinctually follow the leader, who is both a protector and provider
- Imperative to survival

How does this impact training?

You need to be in the pack leader position to ensure your dog’s respect. Once you have your dog’s respect, he will listen better to your cues and commands.

How to become the "Pack Leader"

Control = Power -------> Power = Respect

The more actions/activities you control, the more power you have in your dog's eyes. In what ways can I control my dog?
- More things on your terms - who made the decision, you or your dog?
- Where to walk, when to eat, when to greet someone, etc.
Activities that give you more control:

- Claiming space - "the stairs" exercise
- Claiming resources - scheduled feeding, sit/wait for food, rotate toys, etc.
- Leadership walk - walking in "work mode", no sniffing, pulling, crossing over, etc.

Paws and Possibilities specializes in teaching you how to train your dog. Unique training plans are created to meet your specific needs. Complicated training ideas are explained to you in a way that makes sense, and results are measurable. Call 410-424-0858 for more information or visit www.pawsandpossibilities.com.