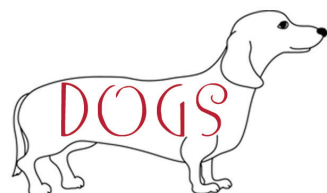


And They Call It Puppy (& Kitty) Love

WRITTEN BY SAM SCHUNK

As we celebrate love during the month of February, let us take some time to gain an understanding of the unique ways our furry friends show their affection. When you know what to look for, you will see that our canine and feline companions can be very loving members of the household!



Deciphering the signs may be a little less “ruff” with dogs, particularly since canines tend to enjoy being physically close to their loved ones as much as possible. When Zoe wants to snuggle up next to you or follow you wherever you go, she is communicating that she loves you. Other forms of this affectionate expression are when Prince leans or shoves against you, or attempts to weave between your legs while you are standing, seeking to draw your attention. If your pup wanders up and rests his head in your lap, it’s another signal of his trust and devotion, as well as a personal invitation to pet him.



individuals. Add a wagging tail, and you have multiple visual cues that your dog really likes you!

When you know how your dog is showing you love, it’s only natural to want to reciprocate! Some ideas to get you started are to pamper your pooch with a nice rubdown, pet him for a few minutes, talk to him, offer him a favorite treat, and include him in family activities whenever possible. Spending time to learn a new trick or play a game together will give some much needed attention and good exercise, too! Most importantly, make sure to give your pup plenty of encouraging words, and you are sure to receive lots of tail-wagging affection!



As cat aficionados know, the pretty kitties we love tend to exhibit certain feline behaviors when they want to share their love with their owners. Some of the most familiar forms of expressing their feline affection are to rub up against a special person’s legs, to purr or meow, grooming their person, and kneading at your lap when being held.



The cat’s repertoire of loving actions encompasses many other methods of expression. When Fluffy rubs up against someone’s cheek or bumps heads with that person, she is engaging in a form of feline affection that is known as ‘bunting.’ Cats reserve this type of cuddling for their favorite creatures, including the people they consider their own. Special individuals in a kitty’s life may get to see the expression known as making “love eyes.” This occurs when a cat puts his face near someone’s face, stares with his huge eyes at that person, and then slowly blinks, revealing his love and trust. When Mr. Whiskers rolls to his back and exposes his tummy for a rub, he is making a gesture which demonstrates his complete comfort with a particular person. Since cats can sleep up to 16 hours a day and feel vulnerable when resting, they purposefully seek out spaces that they feel are safe for their slumbers; therefore, if Mittens takes a nap in your lap, this indicates that she feels safe, secure and loved.

Want to show your love to your feline friend? Cats enjoy being showered with special attention, such as petting, talking to them, giving kitty a massage or a special treat. Setting aside some time for playing together or training can provide great opportunities for bonding. The best guide, though, is to see and do those things that your cat likes the most, so your little Princess has plenty to purr about!



This Valentine’s Day, be sure to spend time with your favorite four-legged friends and share the love!

Lisa Marie Zambuto, Sales Associate, Realtor®



RE/MAX Associates average more sales than other real estate agents.

LisaZambuto@Remax.net
LisaZambuto.RemaxAgent.com
Phone: 941.882.2005
Fax: 941.484.9403

1314 E. Venice Ave., Suite B, Venice, FL 34285



NEST

Clothing | Home | Gift Boutique

223 A Miami Ave West
Venice, FL

Open Mon. - Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
@nestvenice
941.244.4471

AGILITY
PHYSICAL THERAPY

Experience the Difference

Providing Personalized
Physical Therapy
Treatments

Venice’s
Premier
Outpatient
Rehabilitation
and Sports
Performance
Center



ImproveMyAgility.com

Pinebrook Plaza • 834 Pinebrook Rd., Venice • 941.484.8107
Southbridge Park • 1525 S. Tamiami Tr., Suite 604, Venice • 941.244.2410
Wellen Park • 19790 Wellen Park Blvd., Suite 205, Venice • 941.584.8330

**Make
Adoption
Your First
Option**



Animals available for adoption can be seen online at www.Humane.org



Suncoast Humane Society

Please call
941.474.7884