WHAT’S SO SPECIAL ABOUT PIGLET, THE DEAF BLIND PINK PUPPY?

Piglet, the deaf blind pink puppy

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Hi. I’m Piglet, the deaf blind pink puppy.
I wasn’t always such a happy guy. In fact, I was rescued from a hoarding situation in Georgia along with my mom, 3 littermates, and many of my relatives. I am a double dapple dachshund chihuahua mix which is why my haircoat is white and I was born with congenital ear and eye defects.

I am deaf and blind. When I was a tiny baby I was extremely anxious and screamed constantly. I was lucky to find a safe, supportive home with a family that showers me with unconditional love.

My situation was 100% preventable by spaying and neutering and NOT allowing two dapple (merle) colored dogs to breed. Placing special needs dogs like me is not easy. While some find great homes, many find themselves abandoned or in rescues and shelters.
WHAT IS PIGLET?

**Piglet is a dog.**

- Like any other dog, I have four legs, a tail, a piercing bark, and soft fur.
- My tail wags and my body wiggles when I am happy. I love to be snuggled and I will do anything for a treat.
- I like to ride in the car, I love to take a walk at the beach when it's warm out, and I enjoy visiting my friends at the bank, pet stores, and the animal hospital.
SO WHAT’S SO SPECIAL ABOUT PIGLET?

Well, we all know that I have special needs. Since I am deaf and blind, I qualify as a dog that needs extra special care and accommodations to keep me safe, properly stimulated, and engaged.
MY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE SEEN IN HUMANS

I need accommodations in order to stay safe and enjoy my life. So do people with disabilities.

I have a seeing-eye human. I wear a harness so I can be guided along and not run into cars, curbs, and other obstacles when we are out for a walk.

My family uses gates to keep me away from stairs, and they help me on and off the furniture so I don’t fall. We have a fenced yard so I can run free without the risk of running into the road.

In addition to being blind and deaf, I am also tiny. So, they have to be extra careful with me around big dogs, children, and staircases.
I need to stay connected or I feel alone. I love to be touched. And I love to touch. When I'm sitting on my dad's lap or when I'm sleeping snuggled next to my mom, I am using my sense of touch. It is comforting for me to feel love through my sense of touch.

This was especially important for me when I was a tiny baby. This special form of communication, touch, was the first way I connected with my family and friends. And this gave me the confidence to explore and learn about the world around me.
PIGLET’S SENSE OF HIS ENVIRONMENT

Touching different textures on the ground with my feet and smelling where I am with my nose allow me to find the back steps, my water dish, the door to the vet hospital, and my way on my walks.
I communicate with tap and touch signals because I can’t hear words and I can’t see hands doing sign language.

These are very important words for any dog to understand. My tap signals provide boundaries for me when I’m not sure how to react to what’s going on around me. They allow me to connect with my family and friends and do group activities and training with the other dogs in my family. They allow me to stay safe and feel confident.

I enjoy performing for people I meet and I love to enter tricks competitions.
My special needs put me in a position to help others like me, both human and animal.

My special needs give me the opportunity to educate about disabilities.

My special needs give me the opportunity to inspire.

My special needs give me the opportunity to do fundraising for special needs dog rescues.

My special needs give me the opportunity to put smiles on faces all around the world.
Woofgang & Co. is a non profit organization that employs disabled young adults. They bake and sell dog treats, as well as a number of other hand made and promotional items in their store.

They combined my first birthday party with a program for a Brownie troop to learn about disabilities. We spoke to the Brownie troop about my special needs, and how I learn and enjoy life despite being blind and deaf.

Profits from one of our Piglet t-shirt fundraisers was donated to Woofgang!
I love to attend and compete in special events like the Special K9 Games and the Westport Dog Festival tricks competition.
PIGLET MINDSET

- Our Piglet educational outreach videos are available on my YouTube channel.
- A third grade class in Plainville, MA used our Story of Piglet video to learn about overcoming challenges with a positive attitude. They adopted me as their Growth Mindset Mascot and coined the phrases “Piglet Mindset”, and “A Piglet State of Mind”.
- We visit elementary and nursery school classes to demonstrate my Piglet Mindset and teach about being compassionate and kind to animals and people.
FUNDRAISING

Some of the Rescue Groups and others We Support:

- Pawsavers
- Perfect Imperfections
- Keller's Cause
- Deaf Dogs Rock
- Amazing Aussies
- Sophia’s Grace Foundation
- Colbert Veterinary Rescue Services
- Lovey Loaves
- Marley’s Mutts
- Woofgang & Co
- The Nora Project
- Catherine Violet Hubbard Animal Sanctuary
- Little Pink Shelter
- Gunner’s Wheelchairs
- Hotdog Hill
- Gunter’s Legacy Animal Rescue
- Panda Paws Rescue
- Foster Dogs
- CT Dachshund Rescue
PUTTING SMILES ON FACES ALL AROUND THE WORLD

Check your own face right now- you're likely to find a nice bright smile!
FACEBOOK

INSTAGRAM
I HAVE A VERY GOOD QUALITY OF LIFE

Despite my special needs, I lead a very active, productive life. Anyone who meets me knows that I am happy. I prance around with my head up and tail wagging. I have a positive Piglet Mindset!

My mom says “Piglet, the deaf blind pink puppy is a smart, feisty, handsome, adorable tiny pink dog. His ability to adapt and enjoy life is remarkable and exemplary. Piglet is a dog who teaches optimism, perseverance, resilience, flexibility, and compassion. He engages his environment, communicates with his people, and overcomes challenges every single day.”
PIGLET’S MISSION

• Advocate for and support rescued animals through education and fundraising.
• Inspire and motivate others to adopt special needs pets.
• Facilitate Piglet Mindset Educational Outreach to teachers, students, and others in the community.
• Encourage Acceptance, Inclusion, and Kindness through the example of Piglet’s Inclusion Pack.
• Put a smile on faces all around the world.
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Website: https://www.pinkpigletpuppy.org/
YouTube: Piglet, the deaf blind pink puppy
People Magazine: Online Article
The Dodo: Piglet’s video
Little But Fierce Video  Dodo Impact Video
Piglet Mindset Classroom Visit Video
Info about double dapple & double merle dogs:
https://www.doublemerles.info
THE END