



I received an e-mail from a friend, Michelle, who was bringing her dog to Paws and Effect for classes. She sent out the message to all her friends in the hopes that someone was looking to adopt a dog. A foster dog had arrived at the kennel a few days before and the yellow lab was able to play with her dog, Violet. She fell in love with her and she wanted to help her find a good home. Mandy, as they named her, was about a year old and

had spent half her life already at the shelter. People had passed her over because of her rowdy nature.

We decided as a family to go visit and see if she was what we were looking for. I have to say that I was a little apprehensive at first. Mandy was as about as high-strung as they come. After I had spent some time with her, my husband brought our two toddler boys in to meet her. She LOVED them!

For our second visit, Mandy was let off her leash and was able to play with the boys. She was so focused on the kids, she had no idea there were adults in the room! She was playing and running so hard and fast that it made me tired just watching her :) It was during this visit that I knew she'd be the right dog for us. I fell in love with how much she loves kids and how gentle she was with them if they happened to trip and fall. She would lick their face, as if to ask, "Are you OK?"

Mandy was at Paws and Effect for a few weeks after we decided to adopt her. She needed to be spayed before she could come home. During that time she had some obedience training and she was eager to learn. She just needed some mental stimulation! Since Ruby (the name we gave her) has come home, she has exceeded our expectations over and over again. She is no longer as hyper as she was before. She is, I dare say, a changed dog. Ruby plays so well with her new brothers. She loves fetch and tug a lot! She goes on walks every night with my husband. She sleeps in her new mommy and daddy's room and sleeps right through the night. While Ruby is still playful at times, her favorite spot in the house is on the back of the loveseat. She loves to watch all of the cars and people walk by the window... especially when those people happen to be walking a dog :)

Michelle Pierce