



THE THERAPY DOG SKILLS CLASS WITH BETSY



6 CLASSES: \$300

Therapy Dog Skills Class will help prepare you and your dog to be tested as a potential pet therapy team. We will cover specific test items on the Pet Partners Skills & Aptitude Tests, along with helping to acclimate your dog to wheelchairs, crutches and walkers. You will also learn what to do when visiting and how to recognize signs of stress in your dog and ways to support your dog.

PREREQUISITES: Your dog must know how to Sit and Down and have a reliable Stay and Recall (Come). Dogs must also have a nice temperament and enjoy meeting new people and being petted. Successful completion of Foundation 2 or Canine Good Citizen (CGC) class is required. Dogs over 9 months old are welcome but cannot be tested until they are 1 year old.

Betsy Schwartz is a Certified Professional Dog Trainer-Knowledge Assessed, and an evaluator for the AKC Canine Good Citizen Program. She has been teaching pet training for more than 15 years and was Training Coordinator for the Good Dog Foundation and Instructor for Alliance of Therapy Dogs. As an active Therapy Team member with her own dog, Ellie, Betsy is also an administrator for the Pet Therapy Program at Kids in Crisis in Cos Cob, CT. Betsy is committed to only positive, force-free, dog-friendly training methods which create a bond of trust and foster teamwork.

SPRING 2026

	THURSDAY 2:15-3:15PM
WEEK 1	4/9
WEEK 2	4/16
WEEK 3	4/23
WEEK 4	4/30
WEEK 5	5/7
WEEK 6	5/14

PLEASE NOTE: Pet Partners requires new potential pet therapy teams to complete their Pet Partners Online Handler Course or Handler Workshop prior to the Team Evaluation. This course prepares the “people” part of the team. There is a \$80 fee for the Online Course. For more information on Pet Partners, please go to <https://petpartners.org/volunteer/>

Dogs eating raw protein foods are prohibited from participating in the Pet Partners Program.

For more information on Therapy Dog Skills Class, please contact Betsy at betsy@doggonessmart.com