

When Luke my 7 year old lab cross attacked my mom's puppy whom he was familiar with, we knew we had a bigger problem on our hands than we thought. Luke had always acted aggressively towards other dogs, but more in a protective or playful kind of manner. Early on, we were told by our vet that he was just that way and that there was nothing we could do other than keep a muzzle on him when around other dogs and to walk him where he wouldn't have any contact with other dogs.

So for years, that is what we did. If he was around dogs he would wear a muzzle or we would do our best to keep him away from dogs. It was when he attacked a small puppy for no reason we thought there was no future for him with us, until we were recommended to Rory O'Neill.

Over the next couple of months Rory worked with us on everything from simple exercises we could do in the home, to introducing Luke to other dogs. She taught us about recognizing and correcting his behavior. We started by making him feel less anxious and more confident, which in turn made us more confident in him. And after learning to use the muzzle as a tool and not as punishment, Luke was playing with a pack of up to 6 dogs at a time with no muzzle and no problems!

After just a couple months we are so glad we had not taken the advice of some who told us to have him put to sleep or give him away, and chose the path of working with him. These days Luke is much more comfortable in and out of the home and we are much more confident with him.

I would recommend Rory to anyone dealing with training puppies to dealing with older dogs that most people don't give a chance. She is friendly, dedicated, and we appreciate all she has done for us.

Michelle Craig
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