

Anthony Cassidy  
Writing

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6-Tallmadge

## Special Dog

**I'm most grateful for my Heeling Autism Service Dog. His name is Jasper. He is a Black Labrador Retriever. He has brown eyes and a black spot on his pink tongue.**

**He was born May 18<sup>th</sup> and he is 3 ½ years old. Jaspers mother is named Trixy and his father is named Nicholas. Jasper started his training the day he was born at Guiding Eyes for the Blind. Caroline Sandler and Maureen Mellett helped to train him.**

**A few odd things about Jasper are that he hates water and he doesn't chase squirrels. He likes to get belly rubs and chase his toys around the yard. He is so fast; you would think he's as fast as a cheetah. I like to run around with him and when we play tug of war, it's pretty much a tie. When I play video games he likes to lie down on my lap and look at me. When I go to bed at night and read, petting Jasper helps me to read better. He is very smart.**

**My service dog is so well trained that I can bring him to my school. Jasper helps me concentrate by calming me down. When I get frustrated in school I rip up my work. If Jasper were there I could pet his silky soft ears and relax. Also, when I tell him to "visit", he puts his head on my lap and I can pet his soft noggin. He is trained to keep me safe. I get buckled to his harness that he wears so I can't wander off. He goes everywhere I go, even where other dogs aren't allowed. I like to tell him I love him and I can tell him my feelings. I can always trust him because he will never tell other people my feelings. He will never hurt me.**

