

A day in the life of Kaden (and his human, Simon)

Midnight: I am usually snoozing by the front door. There is always a nice draft. At weekends I get the chance to bark at people walking home from the pub as they pass by but during the week, I am waiting for my human dad to go to bed.



As he walks past (trying not to wake me) I pretend to be fast asleep. Then just before he gets to the top of the stairs, I race past him and start the 'midnight feast game'. All I need to do is find something to chew so that he has to go back downstairs to get a treat!

There's nothing like a midnight snack.

2am: I am usually now asleep in the corner of my human parents' bedroom. The wall is nice and cool. Occasionally I hear my human brother going to bed (he's a teenager) but otherwise this one of the few times during the day when I am truly asleep.

4am: In the summer I am awake by now. In the winter it is usually nearer to 5am before I stir. I wander to my human mum's side of the bed and start with my silent bark. This is something I have perfected over the last couple of years. I bark but no sound comes out. But the sound of opening and closing my mouth quickly starts to wake humans.

If that doesn't work, then I start pawing at the side of the bed. By 5:30am (on average) one of them is awake.

Time for our first walk of the day.....

Sometimes we just walk around the local houses. We usually meet the guy with the old black lab and the older guy with the crazy spaniel. Then there is the milkman and the guy that owns the newspaper shop. We used to see Paddy (another black lab) and his human mum. But he died earlier this year. Some mornings we still see her out walking on her own.



Japanese *Snow Flakes* Spitz

Sometimes we go to a local woodland - even in the dark. Either way we are often back home by 6:30am. If my human dad has taken me out then we go back to bed and I get the chance to snooze. However, if my human mum has taken me out then she lets me stay in the garden so that I can bark and bark and bark until my human dad wakes up.



8am: I used to have breakfast around now but as I get older (I'm 2½ now) I don't really fancy doggie Venison for breakfast so I stay close to the humans in case some bacon or toast is on offer.

Around 8:30am the primary school children are passing the house on their way to school so I can bark at them for a while. They never bark back?

I then go for a quick snooze.

10am: I am lucky. Every day there is at least one human at home. Some days all 3 of them are at home. I tend to spend the next few hours staying close to my human mum. She's my favourite.

The postman usually arrives soon so I can bark at him. If there is an interesting item of post, I might try to chew that for a while but often "it's probably only a bill" and so the humans don't seem too bothered. We then often get a delivery from the Hermes man, or the TNT lady or sometimes the Post Office lady. I bark at them, but they never bark back?

The boxes they bring are better to chew though.

If there are no deliveries to deal with then I curl up on the sofa.



Japanese *Snow Flakes* Spitz

12 noon: Time to try find someone to play with. Fetch is one of my favourite games although I have my own version where I fetch the ball but refuse to give it back. Hours of fun. Then it is time for another snooze.

3pm: I start my stretching routine to get ready for my afternoon walk. If my human dad is home, I sit next to him quietly and look up at him. And stare. And stare. And stare - until he looks at me. Once I've got him to look at me, I can use my 'come on Dad, it's time for a walk???' look.

It can take time but eventually he gives up, and goes to get his coat. At that point I am pretty sure he's got the point and I can run around barking at everyone to let them know 'WE ARE GOING FOR A WALK!!!!'.



Our afternoon walks usually involve going around a local lake. We have to go in the car but I actually don't mind getting in the crate anymore. I used to hate it but now I know most of the time we are going for a walk. Of course I love the lake.

Sometimes we go for a walk around a different lake; the one that has lots of holes to explore. That's so much fun but I can get a bit mucky.



6pm: Having rested after our walk I like to sit outside if possible so I can bark at things - anything really. Cars, birds, squirrels, birds, the moon (if its dark), the wind, other dogs

Japanese *Snow Flakes* Spitz

But I know I also need to keep an eye out for the 3 humans to get together and sit at the kitchen table - because that means it's TEA TIME! (my favourite time of the day).

My bowl is usually full of lovely tasty dog food by now but that can wait. No point eating dog food when there's a chance that there will be some human food available. First, I sit beside my human Mum. Chicken. Yum. Then my human Dad. More chicken.

I tend not to bother to ask the teenager!

7pm: I can now go and eat my tasty dog food. By now the humans are watching TV.

This is when the evening fun begins. After finishing my own food, I see if they have left anything within reach in the kitchen. Sometimes I manage to get an extra bit of food, sometimes just a napkin. Either way that's not the main part of the game.

If I make enough noise my human Dad comes back into the kitchen mumbling under his breath - which gives me the opportunity to run into the lounge and look for the real prize - ideally a book, a pair of glasses, or - best of all - the TV remote control.

I now have a hostage, and the hostage is only released if the ransom is paid - a treat!

It's such a great game.

By now I am full of food and need to burn off some energy. My favourite way of doing this is to chase a tennis ball around the lounge. Eventually though I'm so tired I just need to lie down and snooze.

My human dad often thinks this is a good time to do some doggie grooming - which is really, really relaxing.



Japanese
Snow Flakes Spitz



9pm: I need to keep one eye open for my human mum going to bed - as I need to make sure she gets to bed safely. I keep a close eye on her from behind the curtains.

Once she is there I can come back down, have a drink, and lie down by the front door for the rest of my evening snooze -

Until midnight when the fun starts all over again.....

Kaden

(with a little help from my human, Simon)