

# Owners Can Read Their Dogs' Minds

## VOCABULARY WORDS

1. **psychic** /'saɪ.kɪk/ having a special mental ability, for example, so that you are able to know what will happen in the future or know what people are thinking  
Example: The woman in the movie has psychic powers.
2. **pup parent** - a term to call a person who looks after a pet animal; other expression to use is **fur parent**  
Example: She is now a pup parent with a 2 month old fur baby.
3. **fetch** /fetʃ/ to go to another place to get something or someone and bring it, him, or her back  
Example: Her dog likes to play fetch.
4. **command** /kə'mænd/ an order  
Example: The dog knows how to obey a command.
5. **mini-me** /'mɪnɪˌmeɪ/ one that looks like someone or something  
Example: The contest is for moms and their mini-mes.



Celebrated on April 11th, National Pet Day celebrates the joy that pets bring to our lives—and, for many, it's a **psychic** connection. In fact, nearly three-quarters of **pup parents** claim they can read their furry companions' minds.

Of the 2,000 dog owners surveyed, 74% are confident they understand what their pet wants at any given time. And, 71% feel their dog understands them, too. Half of respondents recalled that it took about six months to get to that point, after bonding activities like playing **fetch** with a ball or taking them on walks.

Communication skills began while teaching some of the easiest commands for dogs: “sit,” “lie down” or “stay.” Other **commands** involved disciplining their furry friend, and took longer: “down,” “dinnertime” and “no.” Most dog owners know their pets so well that even 70% consider their canines their **mini-me** because they have similar personalities. (Good News Network)

## **DISCUSSION**

1. Why are dogs "man's best friend"?
2. What does it mean when a dog rests its head on you?
3. Why do some pet owners abandon their pets?
4. What can be done to help homeless animals?
5. What should people do on "National Pet Day"?
6. What is the importance of having a "National Pet Day"?