

## Puppy Persuasion

a letter exchange by Imanne, second grade writer



Dear Mom,

Can I please have the adorable puppy Samantha is selling at her garage sale? I'll take care of it and I'll bathe it and groom it. In fact, I'll even make sure he doesn't get dirty. Even if he does, I'll clean him straight away. You don't have to worry about him making a mess. I'll litter train him and make sure he doesn't get your clean floors muddy.

Your pleading, careful, knowing youth,  
Charlotte

Dear Charlotte,

I understand that you are trying to be so convincing but not so fast. First of all, how do I know you are going to remember to clean him every time he gets dirty? Second, how do I know you are going to have time with all your homework and housework? You're a busy girl and I'm not sure you are even ready for a pet of your own. You only turned eight last week!

Your wondering, concerned parent,  
Mom

Dear Mom,

Eight is a big number. It'll be like an extra birthday present. Plus, I assure you, I do have time. It's the end of the year so I don't have a lot of homework. And I'll put a note on my pillow, backpack, and my special mug. I really plead with you, Mom! C'mon! It's just a puppy! Walks won't be a problem: they're good exercise!

Your mature, heartbroken, diligent child,  
Charlotte

Dear Charlotte,

Eight isn't as big as you think, but you are doing a good job convincing me. My only concern is: who's going to pay for the puppy? I know it's a garage sale, but it still costs money. If you will pay for it, I've got no grudge against getting a puppy. How much is this puppy, anyway? Tell me in your next letter if you are willing to pay.

Your convinced, defeated, reluctant parent,  
Mom

Dear Mom,

Of course, I'll pay for the puppy! The puppy costs \$10.99 only! That's a 'yes'! I'm so excited! Put the puppy on a leash until I get home. I'll pay you back.

Your happy, excited, celebrating child,  
Charlotte