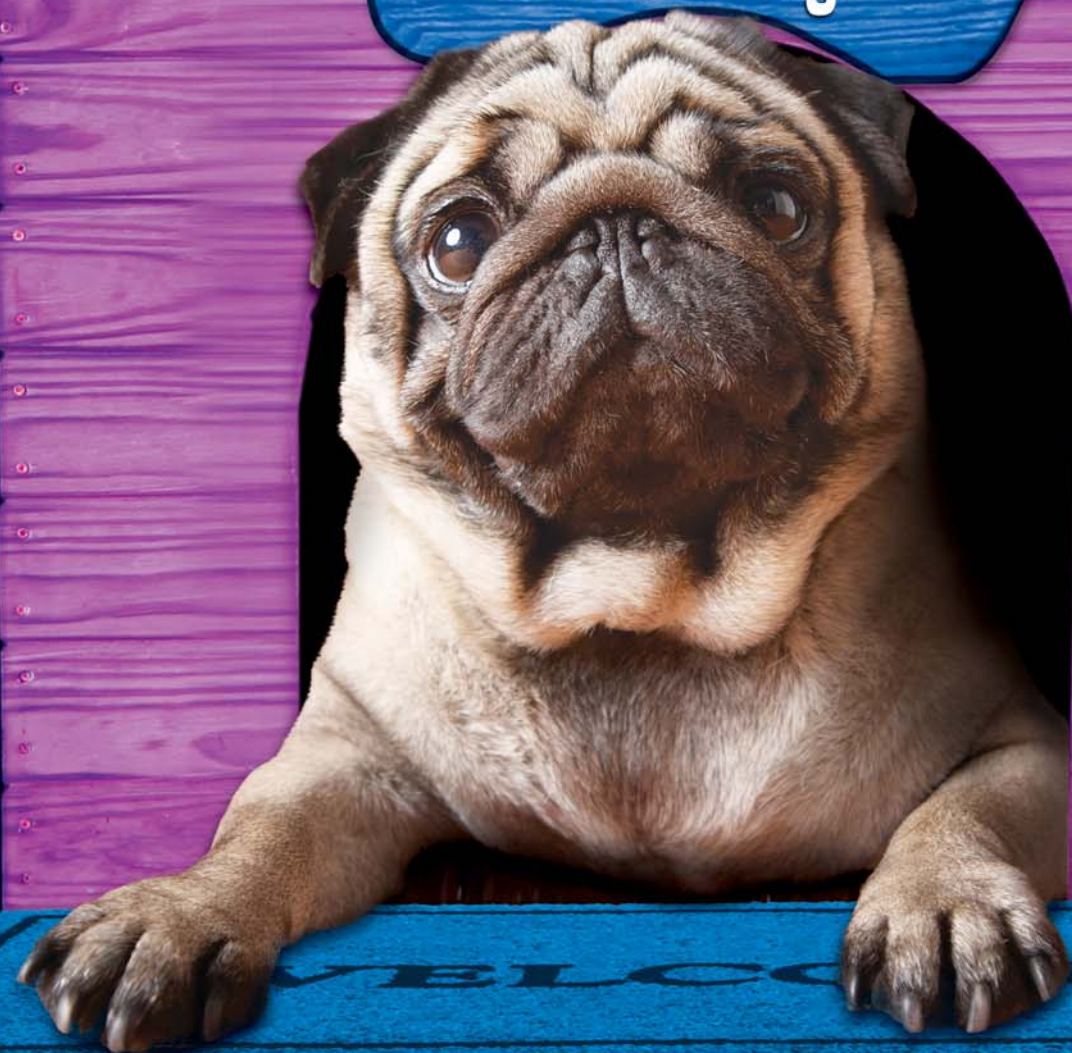


Little Dogs
Rock!

Pug

What a Mug!



by
Lori Haskins Houran

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Consultant: Seattle Pug Rescue
Seattle, Washington

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Contents

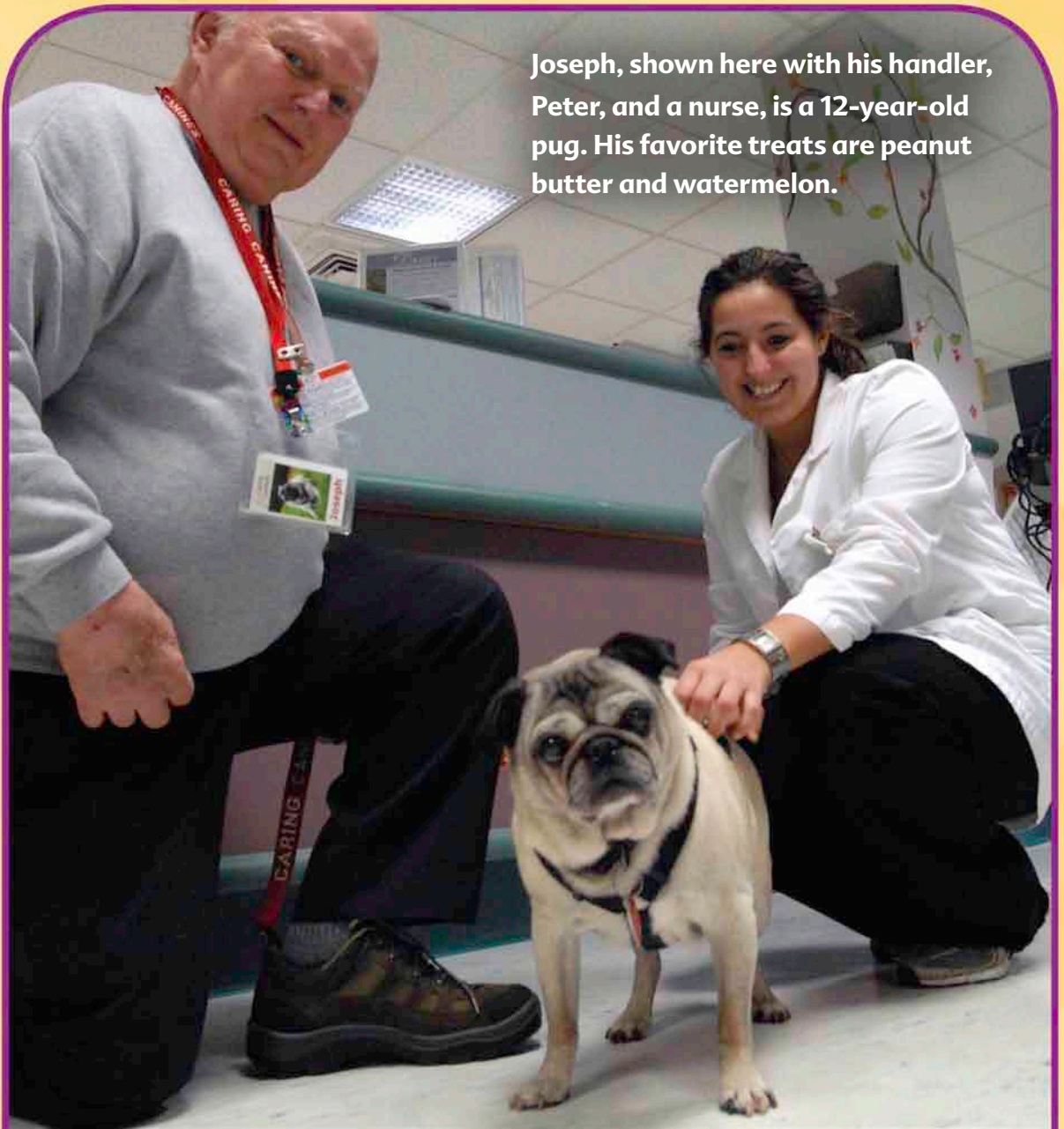
Dog on the Job.....	4
Lap of Luxury.....	6
Crown Dogs.....	8
Clowning Around.....	10
Funny Faces.....	12
Little Dogs, Big Muscles.....	14
Tender Loving Care.....	16
Who, Me?.....	18
Pug Pups.....	20
Almost Perfect.....	22
Top Dogs.....	24
Can't Get Enough.....	26
Pugs at a Glance.....	28
Best in Show.....	29
Glossary.....	30
Bibliography.....	31
Read More.....	31
Learn More Online.....	31
Index.....	32
About the Author.....	32



Dog on the Job

Isabella was crying. It was the little girl's fourth birthday, and she was in the hospital. All she wanted to do was go home.

The nurses tried to cheer her up. They brought her stuffed animals, funny cards, and balloons. Nothing made Isabella feel better . . . until Joseph the pug arrived.



Joseph, shown here with his handler, Peter, and a nurse, is a 12-year-old pug. His favorite treats are peanut butter and watermelon.

Joseph's **handler**, Peter, plopped the small tan dog on the girl's bed. Right away, Joseph snuggled into Isabella's side. Isabella stopped sobbing.

Then Joseph laid his soft head on Isabella's belly. Isabella gave a shy smile.

Before long, Joseph was "kissing" Isabella all over her face. The little girl laughed out loud!



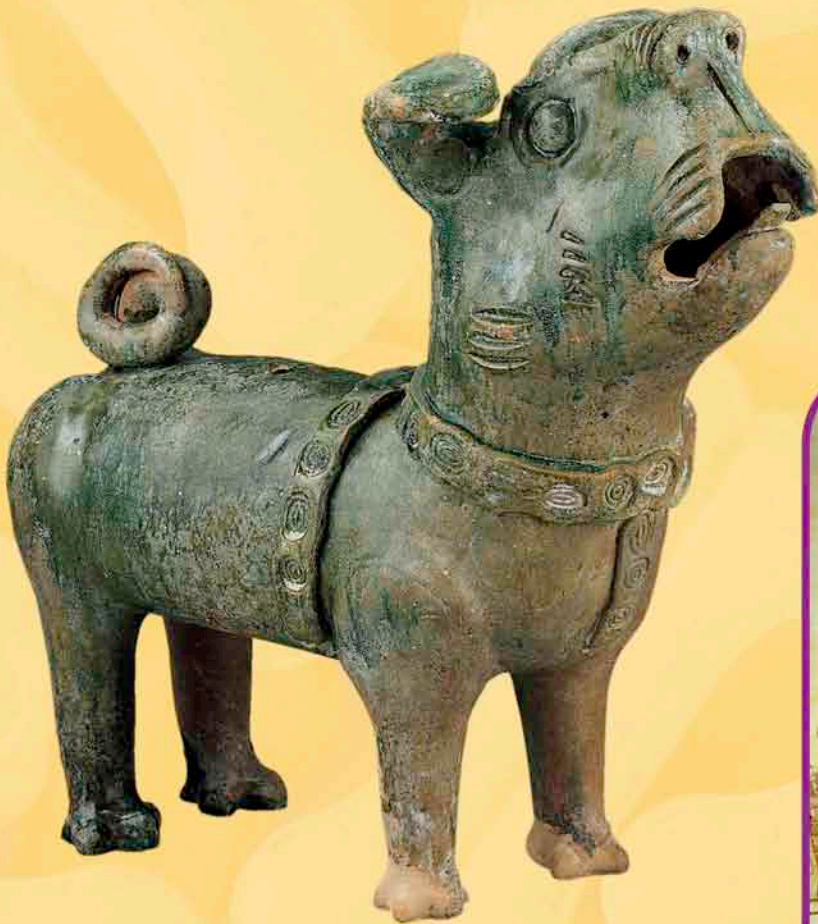
Pugs tend to be jolly dogs—even if they don't look it! Their wrinkled faces make them appear worried and cranky. For this reason, the Dutch name for pugs is *mopshond*, which means "grumbly dog."

▲ Joseph cuddles with a friend at Winchester Hospital in Massachusetts.

Lap of Luxury

Joseph is a **therapy dog**. He visits patients in hospitals and nursing homes. His job is to help these people feel better.

Making people happy comes naturally to pugs. In fact, it has always been their job. Pugs were first raised in China more than 2,000 years ago. They didn't pull sleds or herd sheep like other dogs. From the start, they were **companions**. Their job was to keep people company.



▲ A ceramic figure of a pug ancestor made almost 2,000 years ago

▼ Chinese emperors used to put pugs up their sleeves to keep themselves warm.



Pugs didn't "work" for just anyone. These small dogs sat in the laps of Chinese **monks**, emperors, and other important people. It was against the law for ordinary citizens to own pugs!



▲ **Today's pugs still love lounging on people's laps.**

How did pugs get their name? Some people think they were named after a small monkey, called a pug, which their faces resemble.



Index

- American Kennel Club 22
- China 6, 8, 28
- coats 15, 16, 22, 28–29
- color 15, 24, 28
- dog shows 21, 22–23, 24–25, 29
- Duke and Duchess of Windsor 9
- ears 15, 29
- emperors 6–7
- Europe 8
- eyes 12, 20–21, 22, 29
- grooming 16
- Joseph 4–5, 6, 19
- noses 13
- Pompey 8
- Prince William 8–9
- pug rescue 19
- puppies 19, 20–21
- shedding 16
- tails 15, 20, 29
- therapy dogs 6, 19
- training 18–19
- wrinkles 5, 12, 16, 29

About the Author

Lori Haskins Houran has been writing and editing children's books since 1992. She lives in New York City with her two sons.



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**Little Dogs
Rock!**

Pug

What a Mug!

Isabella was crying. It was her fourth birthday, and she was in the hospital. The nurses who took care of her tried to cheer her up with toys, cards, and balloons. Nothing made the little girl feel any better. Then Joseph the pug arrived. Would his funny wrinkled face and upbeat attitude make her smile?

Look inside to learn more about Joseph and other huggable pugs—as well as surprising facts about the little dog’s history, its physical appearance, and its personality. You’ll also discover what every pug owner knows—that even though these dogs look small, in their own minds they’re large and in charge!

Beagle

A Howling Good Time

Jack Russell Terrier

Bundle of Energy

Toy Poodle

Oodles of Fun

Chihuahua

Señor Tiny

Pomeranian

Pom Pom Ado

Yorkshire Terrier

Tiny but Tough

Dachshund

The Hot Dogger

Pug

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