



Kayaking with Bella

BY JENNIFER SCALIA

We finally made it! For the first time ever, my dog Bella was going to hit the river with me for a kayaking adventure. It was a warm, cloudless day when I packed her special safety vest, bundled her into the car and headed out to spend a day in nature.

Before settling her on the kayak, we went for a dip in the crystal clear water, marveling at the many different rock formations beneath us. The water's chill felt refreshing

and I watched tiny schools of fish swim past my feet. Bella would go in just deep enough to soak her legs and that was brave enough, considering she's a Lhaso Apso and not very big. The long hair on her tail was drenched and she was quite a sight!

When we began our river trip, we had a few minor difficulties to start. I first placed Bella on the kayak near my feet, but that made for some very unstable paddling,