



# Zimzala K9 Training

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## Weekly Pregnancy Progression

### Week 8

#### FOETUSES

Time is flying and while we dash around in preparation, the babies are growing. By day 50 the skeletons are fully formed and completely solidified. The bitch is lactating – the teats are producing milk, and it is a good estimate of when she's likely to give birth, as this usually happens a week in advance. However, know that this is not a reliable way to determine the day of whelping.

Though we trust that the bitch will have enough milk and that there will be no problems, ensure that you have a puppy formula on stand by for an emergency or a top up feed. You want to be prepared.



By now your room should be very close to ready, ensure you have enough bed covers, enough to change regularly. All required to manage the birth and litter should be in place awaiting the big event;

- Note book
- Pen
- Puppy scale
- Puppy markers - collars

## ZIMZALA FLATCOATED RETRIEVERS PREGNANCY PROGRESSION WEEK 8

- Disinfectant
- Tooth floss
- Scissor
- Blankets and towels
- Room thermometer – the first week you want to keep the temperature around 30°C
- Puppy milk, bottles/feeders
- Energy supplies for your bitch if needed during whelping
- Lead and torch for that pre delivery garden walks
- Hot water bottles or heat pad and a suitable tub to place puppies in when next puppy is being delivered
- Heater if needed

This is also a good time to give your girl a lovely massaging, destressing groom. Trim the hair around the vulva and teats, to make it easier for you to see, easier to keep clean and easier for new born pups to feed.

You can start to look out for more prominent movement, also know that those puppies are sensitive to touch in their dam's womb. They and mom will enjoy a gentle stroking of her stomach.