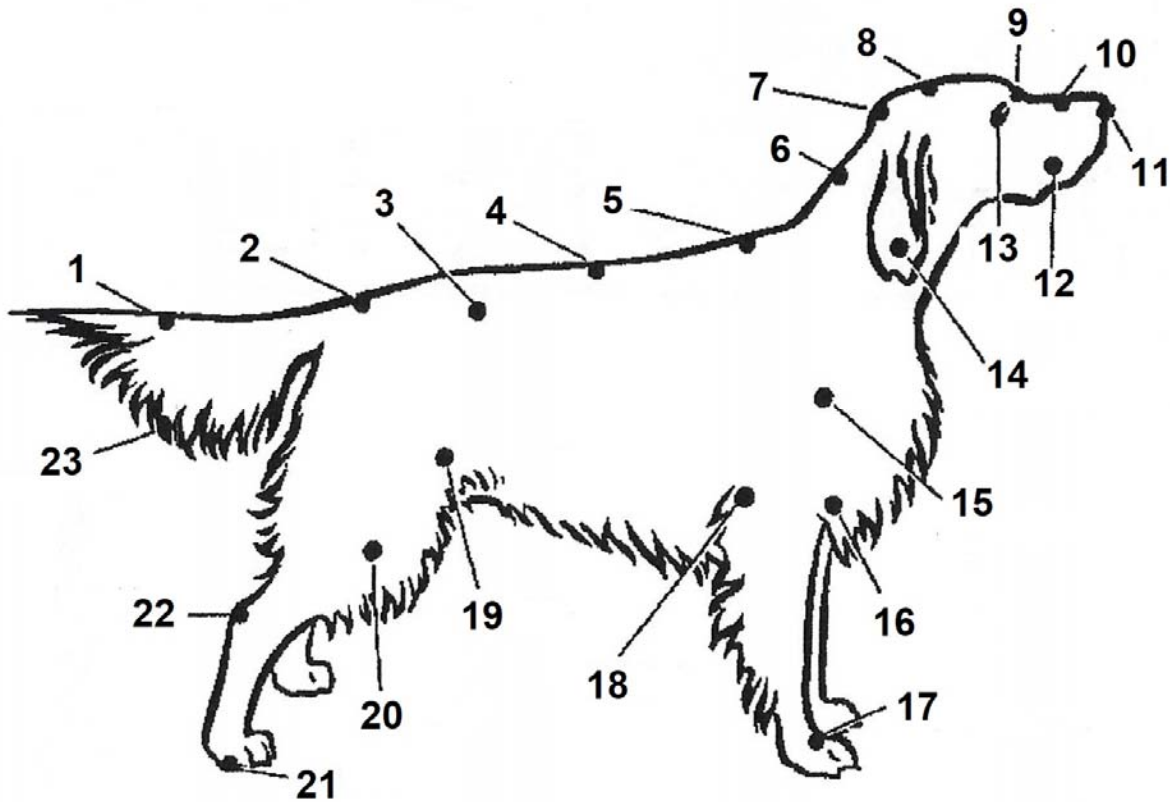


LEVEL 3 TEST - STUDY GUIDE

Dog Body Parts

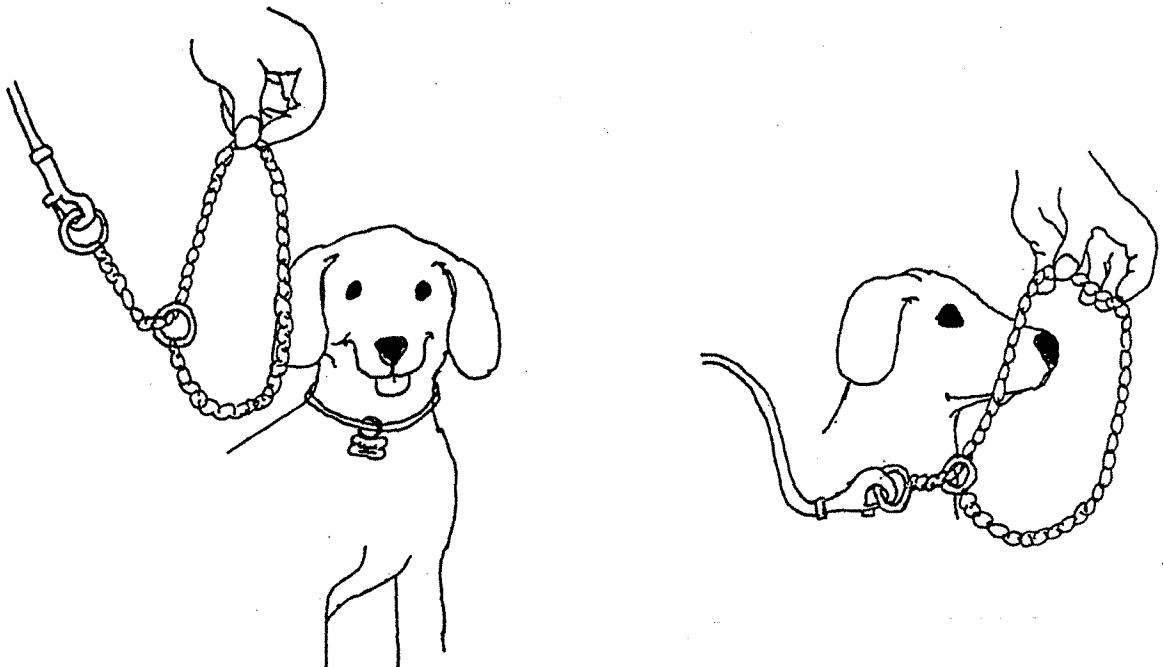


1	Tail	13	Eye
2	Croup	14	Ear (or Leather)
3	Loin	15	Shoulder
4	Back	16	Brisket
5	Withers	17	Pastern
6	Neck	18	Elbow
7	Occiput	19	Tuck Up
8	Skull	20	Stifle
9	Stop	21	Pad
10	Muzzle	22	Hock
11	Nose	23	Feathers
12	Flews (or Lips)		

TRAINING COLLARS AND LEASHES

- 1) **Flat Buckle Collar** – A plain flat buckle collar can be used for training and showing IF your dog can be controlled by this type of collar. The collar can not have any tags hanging from it or fancy decorations. It can be any color you want but plain means plain.
- 2) **Choke Collar** – Also known as a slip collar. This collar should be a good quality collar with close, small links that run freely through the rings. The size of the collar should allow for the hanging end to have 2 inches of slack. You can also show your dog in this collar. Remember; use this collar for training only. Never let your dog run loose with this collar on. It can “choke” your dog to death! **NOTE: You will need one of these collars for showmanship.**

To place your choke collar on your dog, form a loop in the collar by allowing the chain to drop through one of the rings. Holding the collar so that it makes a “P”, slide it over the dog’s head. Attach the leash to the hanging end of the collar. See diagrams below.



Training Collars/Leashes - continued

Prong Collar or

3) **Pinch Collar** – This collar is widely used in the world of obedience. It offers the most effective correction with the least amount of effort. It is actually your dog who will create the correction most of the time. As the collar tightens around the dog's neck, the links come together to "pinch" the skin. A dog will quickly learn that if they do not pull on the leash, they will not get pinched. These collars come in 3 sizes of links, small for small breeds, medium for mid-sized breeds and large for the large breeds. The collar should fit snugly and be placed high on the dog's neck (right behind the ears). If the collar spins at all or hangs on the dog's neck, it is too loose.

NOTE: You cannot show your dog in this type of collar. You will need a flat buckle or choke collar for showing.

LEASHES

- 1) **Obedience Leash:** You will need a 6ft leash to train and show with. It can be either leather or nylon. My only recommendation is that the width of the leash be comfortable to hold on too. During the heeling exercises, the leash will be wrapped up like an accordion which can be very bulky for little hands.

Training Collars/Leashes – continued

- 2) **Showmanship Leash:** Typically a showmanship leash is shorter and made of a fine nylon. This type of leash can be used if your dog works in a “controlled” manner. I will provide these leashes when I feel that the 4-H member and dog are ready. The first leash will be free of charge and it will be your responsibility not to lose it. If you do lose your leash, you can purchase another leash at the cost of \$12.00.

In both cases, a chain leash is not recommended. It is heavy and can hurt hands.

OBEDIENCE EXERCISES

During the course of this project, we will be working on the obedience exercises you will be required to perform when you show. These exercises are:

- Heeling on Leash
- The Figure 8 Heeling
- Sit for Examine
- Recall
- Long Sit
- Long Down

Most of you will show at a level called “Sub-Novice”. At this level, all of these exercises are performed on leash. At the advanced levels, some of these exercises will be performed off leash.

Heeling on Leash – To begin any heeling exercise, your dog must be in a sit on your left side. This is called “The Heel Position”. There are also 7 heeling commands that the judge will call out. These commands are:

- Forward – beginning with your left leg, you walk forward, saying the dog’s name and your heel command. You should walk at a brisk pace.
- Halt – you will stop and the dog must sit in the heel position.
- Right Turn – You will turn to the right, continue walking.
- Left Turn – You will turn to the left, continue walking.

Obedience exercises – continued

- About Turn – Turning away from the dog, you will make a “U” turn and continue walking.
- Slow – Still moving forward, you slow your pace down. The dog must also slow it’s pace down and remain in the heel position.
- Fast – Still moving forward, you pick your pace up to a jog. If you have a little dog, you need to walk quickly. The dog must also pick it’s pace up and remain in heel position

The Figure 8 – In this exercise, you will be performing a figure 8 heeling pattern. Two people, known as posts, will stand 8 ft. apart. You begin the exercise centered between the posts and standing about 2 ft away from the heeling area. Stepping forward with your left leg, you will say your dog’s name and heel command and move to the left or the right. In most cases, the judge will allow you to complete one entire figure 8 pattern before asking you to halt. Once this command is given, you will stop and your dog must sit in the heel position. The judge will again say forward and you repeat the process.

Sit for Examine – This exercise begins with the dog in heel position. The judge will say “Sit your dog and leave when ready”. You then tell your dog to sit, tell them to stay and walk out to the end of your leash, turn and face your dog. The judge will then walk in touch your dog’s head. The judge will then say, “Back to your dog”. You will walk back to your dog, walking around the back of your dog, returning to heel position. Your dog must remain sitting until the judge says “Exercise Finished”.

Obedience exercises – continued

Recall – this exercise begins with the dog in heel position. The judge will say “Leave your dog”. You will tell the dog to stay and walk out to the end of your leash, turn and face your dog. The judge will then say “Call your dog”. Using your dog’s name, call your dog to you. Your dog must come to you quickly and sit in front of you. The judge will then tell you to finish. You will say your dog’s name and give them a finish command. The dog will then return to the heel position.

Long Sit – this exercise begins with the dog in heel position. The judge will say “Sit your dog”. You will say your dog’s name and a sit command. The judge will then say “Leave your dog”. You will say your dog’s name and tell them to stay. You will then walk out to the end of your leash, turn and face your dog. The long sit is for 1 min. After the time is up, the judge will say “Back to your dog”. You will then walk back to your dog walking around the back of your dog, returning to heel position.

Long Down – this exercise begins with the dog in heel position. The judge will say “Down your dog”. You will say your dog’s name and a down command. The judge will then say “Leave your dog”. You will say your dog’s name and tell them to stay. You will then walk out to the end of your leash, turn and face your dog. The long down is for 3 mins. After the time is up, the judge will say “Back to your dog”. You will then walk back to your dog walking around the back of your dog, returning to heel position. Your dog must remain down until the judge says “Exercise finished”.



**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
LEVEL 3 – DOG CARE AND TRAINING**

Member's Name: _____

Date Passed: _____

1. How many exercises are in the Graduate Novice class at an obedience trial? *6 exercises*
2. Which exercise(s) do you also do with the Figure 8? *Heel Free (or off leash heeling)*
3. What are the three differences in the group exercises in the Graduate Novice class? *There is no long down, the long sit is for 3 mins. and it is performed out of site*
4. How is the distance and number of boards determined for the Broad Jump? *Twice the height of the dog at the shoulders*
4. List, in order, the commands that the judge gives to the handler for the "Moving Stand and Exam". *Forward, Stand Your Dog, Return to Your Dog, Exercise Finished*
6. How many points is the "Dumbell Recall" worth? *40 points*
7. You can give both verbal and hand signal commands in the Graduate Novice class? *True False*
(circle your answer)
8. What is the total number of points that a handler needs to qualify in the Graduate Novice class? *170 points*
9. What is "Lagging"? *During heeling, when the dog is walking behind you at a slower pace instead of remaining in the heel position*
10. List the two types of finishes a dog can do? *An around finish and a swing finish*

SHOWMANSHIP

Showmanship is another class that you will be able to enter at a 4-H dog show. In Showmanship, it is you and how you show your dog, which is judged. Everyone in your class comes into the ring at one time. The judge will usually line you up in the order of big dogs to little dogs. This is because the big dogs will move faster than the little dogs when you take them around the ring. When moving your dog around the ring, you will always jog, if you have a big dog or walk briskly if you have a little dog.

In Showmanship, your dog remains standing. Ideally, you want to have them stand without moving while you are being judged. You must be aware of your dog's stance at all times. The front and back feet should be lined up together; one foot should not be in front of the other. The front legs should come straight down from the shoulder and the back legs should come straight down from the hips. You don't want to stretch the legs out too far and place them too close together.

When you begin working on Showmanship, you may find that your dog does not like having you touch its feet. You should start now, rubbing your dog's legs and feet to get them used to your touch. Practice, picking up one foot and placing it down while your dog is standing.

In the Showmanship ring, the judge will ask you to show your dog's teeth. This is done by, placing your left hand on top of the dog's nose and your right hand under the dog's jaw. Using your thumb and first finger on each hand, carefully pull the side of the mouth up with the left hand and down with the right, exposing the dog's teeth. Again, this is something that your dog may not like, so you should start practicing this at home.

Showmanship – continued

In addition to showing your dog's teeth, the judge may ask you questions about your dog. Typically, the judge will ask you to point to certain parts of the dog. Enclosed in this manual is a diagram, identifying parts of a dog. Study and learn these parts, it could be the difference between you placing 1st or 2nd in your class.

There are also movement patterns that the judge will ask you to perform. The three main patterns are; Down and Back, the "L", and a triangle. If the judge is having trouble placing a class, you may be asked to do a "T" pattern also.

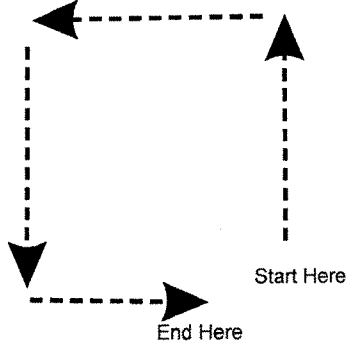
Down and Back - beginning with the dog on your left, start in front of the judge, go straight away from the judge. Glance back to make sure that your dog is still in front of the judge. At the end of the ring, turn right (a U turn) and retrace your steps back to the judge. Again, make sure that the dog is in front of the judge. Stop approx. 2-3 ft from the judge.

The "L" - beginning with the dog on your left, start in front of the judge; go straight away to the end of the ring. Glance back to make sure that your dog is in front of the judge. At the end of the ring, turn left, continuing to the opposite corner. Once you have reached the other end, you will make a U turn to the left and your dog will make a U turn to the right. As you complete this turn, you will move the leash from your left hand to your right. Continue back the way you came. Your dog should now be on your right side. When you come to the corner, you will need to slow down and allow the dog to move ahead of you so that you can cross behind the dog, moving the leash from the right hand to the left and turning right. Your dog should now be on your left side. Make sure that the dog is in front of the judge. Stop approx. 2-3 ft from the judge.

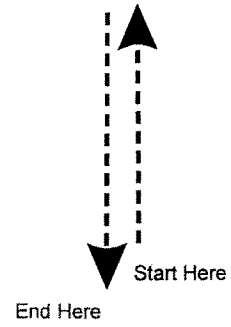


Showmanship Patterns

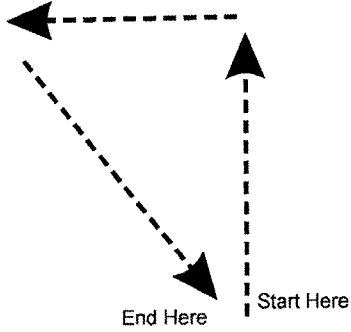
O Pattern
"Take Them Around"



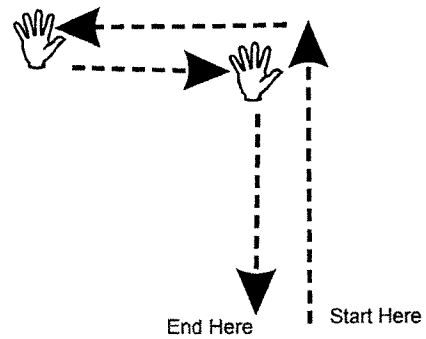
I Pattern
"Down and Back"



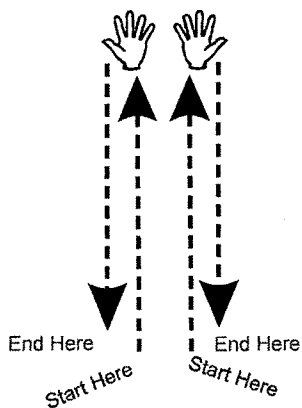
Triangle Pattern



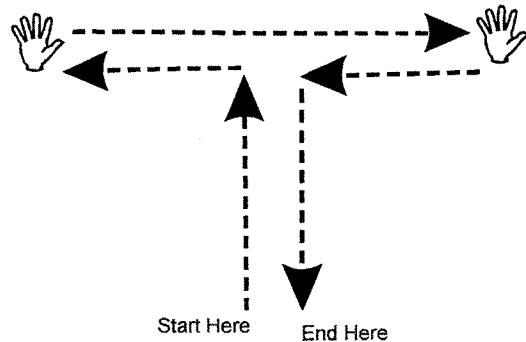
L Pattern
2 Hand Changes



Down & Back Side By Side
Two Dogs/Handlers with 1 Hand Change



T Pattern
2 Hand Changes



PAWS to Consider

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper

Speak! (Share what you did)

- What resources did you use to identify dog breeds?
- What dog breeds do you like best? Why?

Chew on This (Process what's important)

- What can a dog's breed and breed group tell you about that dog?
 - Why is it so important for you to learn about different dog breeds?
-
-

Catch the Scent (Generalize to your life)

- What breeds of dogs are in your community?
-
-

Point the Way (Apply what you learned)

- How can you use what you learned about breeds to offer helpful advice to someone who wants to select a dog?
-
-



www.n4hcc.org/dog

Dog breeds

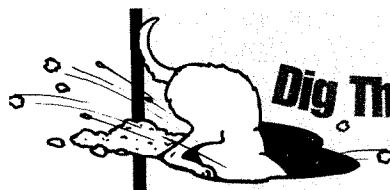
• Breed group



Howl about this?

- Dogs that have fur with "tiger stripes" are called brindle. Boxers, Plotts, Mastiffs and American Staffordshire Terriers are examples of dogs that often having brindle coloring.
- Parson Russell Terriers used to be called Jack Russell Terriers.

Adapted by Amy Harder from original activity by Debbie Hackman.



Dig This!

Hunters, Herders and Helpers

There are more than 700 dog breeds in the world. The American Kennel Club (AKC) recognizes about 150 breeds, which are divided into eight groups.

Sporting. Active and alert, these dogs were developed to work closely with people to hunt birds. Examples include English Setters, Pointers, Labrador Retrievers, Cocker Spaniels and Vizslas.

Hound. Sweet and loving dogs that hunt by scent or sight. Examples include Bloodhounds, Salukis, Borzois, Greyhounds, Dachshunds and Beagles.

Working. Large, intelligent and protective dogs that do tasks such as herding, guarding or pulling carts. Examples include Doberman Pinschers, Boxers, Rottweilers, Saint Bernards and Siberian Huskies.

Terrier. Energetic, intelligent and brave, these dogs were developed to hunt pests. Examples are Parson Russell Terriers, West Highland White Terriers, Scottish Terriers and Airedale Terriers.

Toy: These small companions love people and attention. Examples are Papillions, Pekingese, Pomeranians, Pugs and Chihuahuas.

Non-sporting. Good companions, these breeds rarely do the original job for which they were bred. Examples include Dalmatians, Standard Poodles, Chow Chows and Schipperkes.

Herding. Highly intelligent and full of energy, these dogs need lots of exercise. Examples are Border Collies, Australian Shepherds, Welsh Corgis and Briards.

Miscellaneous. This group includes breeds that may become fully recognized by the AKC. These dogs may compete in some AKC events and earn some titles. Examples are Plotts, Neopolitan Mastiffs and Redbone Coonhounds.

Resources: American Kennel Club

Begging for More

1. Attend a local dog show and write down all the different breeds you see in each breed group. If possible, take photos of as many different breeds as you can and create a notebook about dog breeds.
2. Visit an animal shelter. Describe the main breed and breed group of each dog, including mutts. Note how each dog's behavior and personality relate to its breed and breed group.



Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper

Speak! (Share what you did)

- What are some of the ways your dog could get lost?
- How did making your "Lost Dog" poster make you feel?

Chew on This (Process what's important)

- Why is preventing a dog from getting lost so important?
- How is creating a plan to protect your dog part of being a responsible dog owner?

Catch the Scent (Generalize to your life)

- What things in your everyday life do you have to make a plan for?
- What are some things that have happened when you didn't plan well?

Point the Way (Apply what you learned)

- How can you teach your friends to prevent their dogs from getting lost?

Howl about this?

If you find a lost dog, get an adult to carefully and gently catch the dog and put it in a safe place. Offer it water and a little food. Through newspapers, radio stations, animal shelters and posters, announce that you found a lost dog. Describe only some of the dog's characteristics; ask callers to describe the dog to you completely so you can be sure you will give the dog back to the right owner.

Dig This!

One of the responsibilities you have as a dog owner is to protect your dog from the danger of getting lost. Here are some things you can do to protect your dog from getting lost.

Identification. Consider having your dog *tattooed* or *microchipped*. When your dog has a buckle collar on, make sure it has ID tags on. Never put tags on a training collar.

Fencing and Leashes. Always keep your dog in a fenced yard or kennel and/or on a leash when outside. Make sure the fence isn't broken and that the dog can't go over or under it.

Lost Dog Plan. If your dog gets lost, call your animal shelter, police department, animal control officer and local veterinarians with a good description of your dog. Ask family, friends and neighbors to help you look for your dog. Call your local radio station, newspaper and TV for help getting the word out. Post "Lost Dog" posters around your neighborhood. Use large, easy-to-read printing on your poster. Make sure it will get people's attention.

On your "Lost Dog" poster, include:

- a recent photo of your dog, including views of both sides and face
- description of your dog, including gender, breed, color, hair length, age and special characteristics; do not include your dog's name
- instructions about what someone should do if they find your dog; include two telephone numbers

• Tattoo • Microchip



Begging for More

1. Add more parts to your lost dog plan: check into advertising options such as radio stations and newspapers; make a list of neighbors, friends and other people who could help you find your dog if it should get lost.
2. Ask your veterinarian about using a tattoo or microchip to help you identify your dog. Decide which would be the best for your pet.

PAWS to Consider

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper

Speak! (Share what you did)

- What parts of the dog did you already know?
- What new parts did you learn?
- How did it feel to be a part of a team?

Chew on This (Process what's important)

- Why do you need to know the names of dog parts?
 - Why should you learn to work on a team?
-
-
-

Catch the Scent (Generalize to your life)

- Which parts of the dog have the same name as your body parts?
 - When else have you worked on a team?
-
-
-

Point the Way (Apply what you learned)

- How can you improve your teamwork skills?
 - How can you use your dog parts knowledge to learn even more about dogs?
-
-
-



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Dog body parts



A dog's height is measured from the ground to the highest point of his withers.

Activity written by Susan Kerr.



The Hip Bone's Connected to the...

Besides being fun, it's important to learn the names of dog parts. Judges will ask you to name some parts in showmanship classes. Breeders may talk about different dog parts and you'll want to know what they are talking about. If you see a problem with your dog, you need to know the name of the part so you can talk with your veterinarian about it.

When you are learning about parts, start with a simple drawing that has the parts labeled and named. Next, switch to a drawing without labels. Finally, practice naming parts on a real dog with a friend. Pretty soon you'll know all the parts!

• Stop • Tuck up • Occiput • Hock • Withers



Begging for More

1. Create another fun game to help you learn dog body parts and share it with a friend.
2. Pretend you are a reporter and "interview" friends and family about why teamwork is important.

The Skinny on Dog Food

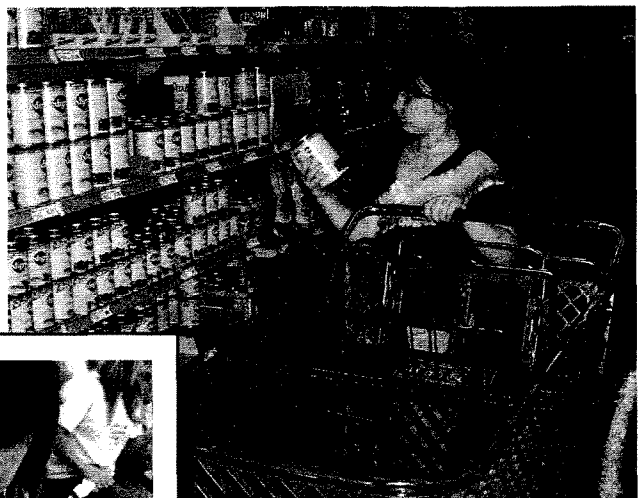
Just like you, dogs have a food pyramid to "climb" everyday to grow and become healthy. In this exercise, you will discover the main nutrients needed by living creatures for proper health and growth. This knowledge will help you feed your dog—and yourself!—properly.

Dog Project Skill: Investigating nutrients in food

Life Skill: Reasoning: Uses logic to draw conclusions

National Educational Standard: NS.K-4.6: Personal and Social Perspectives: Personal health

Success Indicator: Names the major food nutrients.



There are so many dog foods to choose from!

Jump In

Replace the question marks in the "Sources of Nutrients" table with the correct terms from the Word Bank. Next, put the foods listed as "leftovers" in their proper place in the nutrient chart.

Note: Most foods actually supply more than one kind of nutrient.



Too many treats and snacks are bad for your dog's teeth, weight and general health.

Word Bank

Protein

Fat

Water

Vitamins

Minerals

Carbohydrate

Examples of Sources of Nutrients

?	?	?	? and ?	?
Water	Poultry	Wheat flour		Olive oil
		Corn meal	Peas	Vegetable oil
	Lamb		Green beans	
	Pork	Oatmeal	Apples	Nuts
	Fish	Honey	Bananas	Seeds
		Molasses	Cheese	Corn
	Peanut butter	Pasta	Yogurt	
	Soy	Barley	Milk	Peanut butter
	Milk		Yeast	Lard
	Cheese	Crackers	Liver	Trimmed fat from meat

Leftovers: Beef, Rice, Carrots, Eggs, Butter, Sugar, Bacon fat



PAWS to Consider

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper

Speak! (Share what you did)

- What resources did you use for this activity?
- What diseases did you discover that were new to you?

Chew on This (Process what's important)

- Why are vaccinations important for dogs' health?
- Explain why preventing diseases is better than treating them.

Catch the Scent (Generalize to your life)

- What diseases have you been vaccinated against?
- What things do you do to keep yourself healthy?

Point the Way (Apply what you learned)

- What disease prevention actions can you take when introducing a puppy to another dog?
- How will you share what you learned with others?

• External parasites • Internal parasites • Contagious • Virus • Bacteria



Hot Shots

By vaccinating and deworming your dog, you can help protect him from getting sick. Here are general recommendations for preventing dog diseases, but make sure to ask your veterinarian what is needed for your dog.

Vaccinations. Vaccinate puppies at 6–8 weeks, 8–10 weeks, 10–12 weeks and 12–14 weeks against distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis, parainfluenza and parvovirus. Adult dogs need a booster shot once a year. A dog can have its first rabies vaccination at 12 weeks; this vaccination is good for one year and booster shots after that are good for three years. Additional vaccinations recommended for some dogs protect against coronavirus, kennel cough and Lyme Disease and Rattlesnake bites.

Deworming. It is best to deworm a dog based on the results of an examination of its feces. However, nearly all puppies have roundworms. Other *internal parasites* include hookworms, whipworms, tapeworms, heartworms, coccidia and giardia. Clean up feces promptly and vary the spot where you tie a dog or kennel it outside. Use heartworm prevention regularly if this parasite is in your area.

External parasites. Ear mites are tiny pests that live in dogs' ear canals; they can be spread between dogs and cats. Mange mites burrow into the skin and cause itching and hair loss. Fleas and ticks are a big problem for dogs in some parts of the country. Use flea and tick treatment and control products as recommended by your veterinarian.

Begging for More

1. Ask a veterinarian or veterinary technician to show you how to examine a stool sample for parasites. Look at hookworm, whipworm and roundworm eggs under a microscope. Draw what you see.
2. Research and draw the life cycle of an internal or external parasite of your choice. Share what you discovered with your group or helper.

Standard: NS.K-4.3
acteristics of organisms
terprets basic dog body
ior.

PAWS to Consider



Dig This!

Tattle Tails

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper

Speak! (Share what you did)

- What different dog body language did you see in each setting?
- Which dog seemed the most friendly? The most timid?

Chew on This (Process what's important)

- How do dogs communicate with people? With each other?
- Why is it important for you to understand dog body language?

Catch the Scent (Generalize to your life)

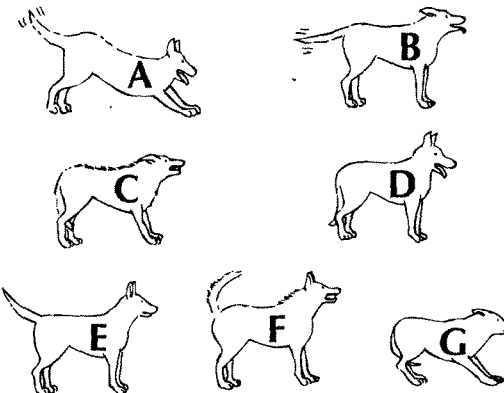
- Besides talking, how do you communicate your feelings to other people?
- Describe different encounters you have had with friendly, timid and mean dogs. How did they act?

Point the Way (Apply what you learned)

- How could you teach others in your community about how to avoid being bitten by a dog?
- How should you react to a dog that is showing aggressive body language?

Many people are bitten by dogs each year. If you understand dog body language, you will be more able to tell which dogs are friendly and which ones you should avoid. Dogs use body *postures*, facial expressions and tail positioning to communicate with other dogs and people. A dog's body language can tell us if the dog is *submissive*, fearful, friendly or aggressive.

Dog Body Language



- A Wants to play
- B Friendly greeting and asking for attention
- C Threatening and afraid
- D Polite greeting
- E Something has the dog's attention
- F Threatening and aggressive
- G Scolded or fearful

If an aggressive dog comes near you, stand very still. Do not look it in the eyes. If it knocks you down, curl into a ball, put your hands over your head and neck and lie very still. Never try to outrun a dog—that may make him want to chase and attack you.

Never approach a dog on his property unless his owner is present and says that it is safe. Many dogs are friendly when their family is present, but can become protective and aggressive when alone.

Dogs running loose together can form a dog pack and become very dangerous. If you see a group of loose dogs, go to a safe place and tell an adult about the dog pack right away.



saying, "I'm friendly!"

ne is scolded for doing
bad or wrong.

posture

Beani

PAWS to Consider

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper

Speak! (Share what you did)

- Which of Lee's feelings or actions could you identify with? Why?
- How does talking about loss and grief make you feel?

Chew on This (Process what's important)

- How does grieving help someone recover from a loss?
- Why is it important to prepare for the loss of your dog?

Catch the Scent (Generalize to your life)

- How can helping a friend through a loss prepare you for a loss of your own?
- For what types of losses might you grieve?

Point the Way (Apply what you learned)

- What can you do to help someone who is grieving?
- What can you do to prepare for a loss?



Letting Go

Grieving is a way of dealing with the loss of a friend, relative, pet or possession. It is a normal sign of caring. If you lose a pet, it is important to share your feelings with others. If a friend loses a pet, share in the grieving process with them. Listen to their stories or just sit with them if that is what they need.

The five stages of grieving are

1. **Denial.** "This hasn't happened."
2. **Anger.** "I'll never forgive you for letting this happen."
3. **Bargaining.** "I'll do anything to make things right again."
4. **Depression.** "I just don't feel like doing anything any more."
5. **Acceptance.** "I can remember the good times and move on with my life."

Things to say to someone who has lost a dog

- "I'm sorry about your dog."
- "I know how much you loved your dog."
- "Your dog really loved you."
- "He was a great dog!"
- "If you need someone to talk to, give me a call."
- "Let's go for a walk and you can tell me about him."
- "Can I do anything to help?"
- "Can I make a donation to a charity in honor of your pet?"
- "What happened?"
- Relate a fun or memorable story about their dog.

Things NOT to say

- "I know how you feel."
- "You'll have to get a new dog."
- "It was bound to happen."
- "He was pretty old anyway."
- "It was just a dog."
- "You got him for free, didn't you?"
- "At least you didn't have a big vet bill."
- "I never liked him anyway."
- "Now you're not so tied down."
- "You can just get another one."
- "He wasn't worth the trouble."
- Don't talk about a dog you have lost—this is THEIR time.

• Grief • Depression • Denial • Acceptance



Begging for More

1. Visit a funeral director, physician or veterinarian. Ask them how they help their clients or patients deal with grief.
2. Talk with a counselor about the grieving process. Ask them what training they received to help others with their grief. Share what you learned with your group or helper.



PAWS to Consider

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper

Speak! (Share what you did)

- Who are the dog groomers in your area?
- What was your demonstration about?

Chew on This (Process what's important)

- Why do you need to keep your dog clean and care for his teeth, ears and eyes?
 - How does talking with a groomer or veterinarian help you improve your communication skills?
-
-

Catch the Scent (Generalize to your life)

- What problems have you seen from dogs not being groomed?
 - Besides giving a demonstration, how else can you communicate what you know with others?
-
-

Point the Way (Apply what you learned)

- How will you change how you groom and care for your dog?
 - How will the demands of grooming affect which breed of dog you might want in the future?
-
-

• Quick • Pinna • Debris



www.n4hcc.org/dog

Grooming

How about this?

- There are several breeds of hairless dogs that don't need any brushing!
- Ear mites, yeast infections, plant parts and bacteria can all cause ear problems in dogs.
- Some dogs with ear problems can shake their ears so hard that they burst blood vessels in the ear *pinna*, which makes the whole ear swell up with bloody fluid.
- A dog's coat can become dry if it is bathed too often.

Dig This!

Brush, Clip, Trim and Snip

Be patient with your dog as you train it for grooming. Groom dogs on a table with a rubber mat or rug for gripping. Work for short periods of time until your dog gets used to grooming.

Only bathe your dog if he is dirty, smells bad or needs to have his skin or coat treated with a special shampoo for his health. You can wipe his coat with a damp towel between baths. If you must bathe your dog for a show, do so 48 hours before the show. Have an adult present when you groom your dog because some dogs do not like to be groomed.

Grooming Steps

- **Brush dog**, removing mats and *debris*; use a toothed rake and brush gently all the way to the skin; check behind ears, in armpits, on back legs and under tail
- **Clean matter** from eyes with a moist cotton ball
- **Clean ears** with alcohol and cotton balls
- **Brush teeth** with soft toothbrush and dog (not human) toothpaste
- **Trim nails**. Try not to cut into the *quick* (red area). If you do and it bleeds, dab a little cornstarch on to stop the bleeding.
- **Wet, bathe** with dog shampoo, rinse twice
- **Apply coat conditioner** if needed
- **Dry** with towel or blow drier set on low
- **Brush out coat**
- **Trim** according to breed or type
- **Clip** hair between toes and around foot pads
- **Praise** your dog for behaving well!



Begging for More

1. Help a dog groomer for a day. Note and record the many steps that professional groomers do while grooming a dog. Take a picture of you helping the groomer and attach it to this page. Remember to stay safe at all times.
2. Describe how to groom two very different dog breeds and attach your report to this page.

Dog Talk 1 Glossary



This is the first of three Dog Talk glossaries for you to use to increase your vocabulary. See how many of these words your family knows.

A

Acceptance – Consider something is true; believe or agree.

Advantage – Positive; plus; pro; strength.

Aggressive – Bold, strong or overbearing; likely to fight; hostile.

B

Bacteria – Tiny, one-celled living creature.

Balanced – Food that supplies all the important nutrients in the right amounts.

Breed – Group of animals that are very similar and have been created by special mating and selection for a certain purpose.

Breed group – Collection of breeds with a similar use or purpose, such as herding.

Breed-specific – Conditions that are more common in certain breeds.

C

Canine Good Citizens – American Kennel Club certification given to dogs that successfully complete a certain behavior and training test.

Carbohydrates – Sugars and starches in feed; sources of energy.

Carnivore – Group of animals whose diet is mostly meat.

Cataracts – Cloudiness in an inner part of the eye that interferes with vision.

Commercial dog food – Balanced dog food developed by companies based on research and dogs' needs.

Contagious – Able to be spread between individuals.

D

Debris – Dirt, leaves, mud, etc.

Deficiency – Lack.

Denial – Refusing to accept something that is true.

Depression – Feeling of sadness and hopelessness.

Diarrhea – Loose or watery stool (feces).

Disadvantage – Negative; minus; con; weakness.

E

Energy – One of the major food nutrients; usually provided by fats and carbohydrates.

Environment – Surroundings.

Euthanize – Painlessly end an animal's life.

External parasites – Pests that live on or in an animal's skin or coat and do harm.

F

Fictional – Made up; not real.

G

Glucose – Basic form of sugar needed by body cells to work.

Grief – Feelings of loss; mourning for something or someone that has died or been lost.

Guarantee – Promise of quality, health or performance.



H

Hip dysplasia – Disorder of the hip joint where the hip ball is poorly seated in the joint socket; more common in certain breeds.

Hock – Sharp angled joint in the dog's hind leg; its heel or tarsus.

House soiling – Urinating or defecating indoors.

I

Internal parasites – Pests that live inside an animal and do harm.

PAWS to Consider

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper

Speak! *(Share what you did)*

- Which breed origins did you investigate?
- Where did you find the information you needed?

Chew on This *(Process what's important)*

- How is a breed's country of origin related to its original function and structure?
- How did working with the map and flags help you identify and remember the different countries?

Catch the Scent *(Generalize to your life)*

- What different dog breeds have you seen?
- What is your favorite way to learn new information?

Point the Way *(Apply what you learned)*

- How will what you learned help you in a knowledge bowl or showmanship class?
- How can you continue to learn about the location, culture and characteristics of different countries?



www.n4hcc.org/dog

Dog breeds
World geography

Howl about this?

- The first dog breed that was developed was probably the Saluki.
- The Black Russian Terrier and Neopolitan Mastiff breeds were approved for AKC registration in the Working Group as of July 1, 2004.



The Need for Breeds

Dog breeds have been developed to meet people's needs and preferences through selection for certain traits and abilities. Factors that affected the type of breeds created in various countries include that area's climate, terrain and culture. Uses of different breeds include hunting, protection of livestock or property, military work, rescue work, companionship, draft, service and even food.

As societies change, so do people's needs, so refinement of breeds continues today. For example, the Rottweiler's ancestors were used in Rome to fight lions and serve the military, but then were used to herd and protect cattle, guard property and pull carts. They are now mostly used as pets. Their past and current uses took advantage of breeders' selection for intelligence, strength and loyalty.

Dachshunds were developed in Germany to be small, feisty, brave and able to dig into tunnels to kill badgers and other ground-dwelling pests.

Samoyeds, Alaskan Malamutes and Siberian Huskies were developed in barren, cold Northern regions to have great stamina, strength and endurance to pull sleds for long distances. Through breeding and selection, they have developed thick coats for protection.

Many hunting dog breeds have been developed to hunt deer, elk, wolves, bears, birds, wild hogs, mountain lions, raccoons or foxes. Each hunting breed has characteristics that make it well suited to hunt its specific quarry.

Where did your favorite breed develop and what was its original use?

Begging for More

1. Investigate the country of origin of many more breeds. Add these flags to your map.
2. Describe how you would develop a new dog breed. Explain what breeds you would use and what would be unique about the breed you are developing. Draw a picture of an ideal example of this breed.

PAWS to Consider

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper

Speak! (Share what you did)

- What dog breed did you choose for this activity? Why?
- What inherited diseases did you investigate?

Chew on This (Process what's important)

- Why should you learn about common inherited conditions of dog breeds that interest you?
- Explain why research skills are important.

Catch the Scent (Generalize to your life)

- What inherited conditions have you seen in dogs or other animals?
- What other topics have you researched?

Point the Way (Apply what you learned)

- How would understanding inherited diseases help you if you were a dog breeder?
- What careers require good research skills?



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OFA
Inherited problems
CERF
GDC

• Inherited



Howl about this?

Several organizations are devoted to inherited disorders of dogs:

- The Institute for Genetic Disease Control in Animals (GDC) helps purebred dog breeders and researchers decrease genetic diseases through a national registry of animals.
- The Orthopaedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) examines radiographs of dogs for hip dysplasia.
- The Canine Eye Registration Foundation (CERF) deals with various disorders of dogs' eyes.

Dig This!

It's in the Genes

There are many abnormal conditions of dogs that are more common in some breeds. This is because some conditions (or an individual's likelihood of developing a disease) may be inherited. Below are some breed-related disorders of dogs. Note: There are many exceptions to these examples and an individual dog of any breed could develop any of the problems listed.

Hip dysplasia—Abnormal development of hip joint; more common in Rottweilers, German Shepherds, Labradors, Great Pyrenees and other breeds.

Cataracts—Cloudiness of the eye lens; more common in Golden Retrievers, Labradors, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Old English Sheepdogs, Staffordshire Bull Terriers and others.

Seizures—Epilepsy or convulsions; more common in Beagles, Poodles, Bichon Frises, Dachshunds and more.

Bleeding disorders—Lack of various blood clotting factors; more common in Alaskan Malamutes, Doberman Pinschers, Collies, German Shorthair Pointers, Greyhounds, Samoyeds and more.

Patellar luxation—Kneecap slips out of place; more common in Yorkshire Terriers, Papillions, Silky Terriers, Lhasa Apsos, Maltese, Pugs and others.

Gastric dilation and volvulus—Bloating and twisting of the stomach; more common in Great Danes, Boxers, Greyhounds, Saint Bernards, Mastiffs, Standard Poodles and more.

Cancer—Abnormal tissue growth; more common in Boxers, Boston Terriers, Weimaraners, Scottish Terriers and more.

Entropion—Eyelid(s) roll in and irritate the eye; more common in Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Chow Chows, Chinese Shar Peis, Pugs, Akitas and more.

Deafness—Impaired hearing; more common in Cocker Spaniels, Parson Russell Terriers, West Highland White Terriers, Akitas, Dalmatians, American Staffordshire Terriers, Shelties and more.

Begging for More

1. Investigate inherited problems in several more breeds of dogs and share what you learned with your helper or group.
2. Create a brochure, letter or other educational tool to encourage dog breeders to breed dogs ethically and intelligently, so that breed-related problems can be reduced.

PAWS to Consider

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper

Speak! (Share what you did)

- What safety hazards did you identify in your dog's environment?
- What surprised you most during your survey?

Chew on This (Process what's important)

- Why is it a good idea to protect your dog from harm?
- How does keeping your dog safe show that you are a responsible owner?

Catch the Scent (Generalize to your life)

- What safety problems has your dog experienced?
- What aspects of your environment are unsafe or unhealthy?

Point the Way (Apply what you learned)

- How can you make your dog's environment safer?
- How will being a responsible dog owner help you become a more responsible student or friend?

Dog Project ONLINE

www.n4hcc.org/dog
 Pet safety

How about this?

- Antifreeze is very poisonous to dogs, so store it safely and clean up any spills right away.



Keeping Your Hound Safe and Sound

How many of these hazards did you discover in your dog's environment?

Indoor Hazards	Outdoor Hazards	Other Hazards
Electric cords and outlets Collars Garbage Sharp objects Foreign objects Small toys Decorations Chocolate Poisonous plants Chemicals Soap Rocking chairs Medications Toilet bowl Bones Packing materials Paint Hot tubs Hyperthermia Candles and flames Glass windows Stairs Others...	Ponds, lakes and wells Pools and hot tubs Barbed wire Other animals Trauma from cars Getting lost Wildlife Bee stings Snake bites Collars Garbage and dead animals Sharp objects Small rocks Porcupine quills Bullets Arrows Hot pavement Hyperthermia Frostbite Hypothermia Others....	Hot cars Eye injuries riding in cars Diseases contracted at kennels, vet hospital Many others...

Prevention Plan

- Vaccinate, deworm and take your dog to the veterinarian regularly.
- Keep your dog on a leash or harness when it is not in an enclosed area.
- Put toys, small bones and other "swallowable" objects where your dog can't get them.
- Maintain good fences to keep your dog safe outside.
- Install baby gates and locking cabinets to keep your dog away from dangerous things.
- Remove trash and garbage from your dog's environment promptly.
- Don't take dogs in cars unnecessarily.
- Train your dog to obey you.
- Remove poisonous objects from your dog's environment.
- Conduct a pet safety patrol!

• Gastroenteritis • Hyperthermia • Hypothermia



Begging for More

1. Videotape your dog's environment. Show your video to your group and discuss any health or safety concerns you notice.
2. Create a safety quiz for other youth. Use it to discuss dog safety issues.





Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper

Speak! (Share what you did)

- What dog foods did you investigate?
- How were the foods similar? How were they different?

Chew on This (Process what's important)

- How did you decide which food to feed your dog?
 - What are the consequences of feeding your dog incorrectly?
-
-

Catch the Scent (Generalize to your life)

- How are your nutritional needs similar to your dog's? How are they different?
 - How do you decide what to eat every day?
-
-

Point the Way (Apply what you learned)

- How will what you learned help you make wise decisions about feeding dogs in the future?
 - What careers involve gathering information and making decisions?
-
-



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Dog nutrition

Howl about this?

- If your dog tends to overeat, you should probably not feed him *ad lib*.
- Breeds with a tendency to bloat (Great Danes, Saint Bernards, Doberman Pinschers, etc.) should be fed several small meals a day instead of one large meal.
- Feed most *lactating* dogs all the food they want—they have very high nutritional requirements.

• Geriatric • Lactating • Ad lib • Dry matter basis



Nutritional Requirements of Dogs

Adult dogs need at least 18% protein and 5% fat in their diets. Puppies and pregnant or lactating dogs need up to 26–30% protein and 15–30% fat. Hardworking dogs need more fat and carbohydrates, not more protein. *Geriatric* dogs may need a special diet, too. Consult with your veterinarian about what to feed your dog. Water is the most important nutrient, so make sure your dog always has fresh, clean water.

Types of Dog Food

The major types of commercial dog food are dry, semi-moist and canned. Dry food is usually the least expensive on a pound-for-pound basis because the other foods have much more water in them. Compared on a *dry matter basis*, though, semi-moist and canned foods contain more nutrients than dry food does. Feed a high quality commercial dog food with the words “complete and balanced” on the label to make sure your dog is eating a balanced diet.

Feeding Your Dog

Feeding your dog properly will take some trial and error. You might decide to feed your dog one or more meals a day or you may choose to feed your dog *ad lib*. If you decide to change your dog's food, do so gradually over several days. The safest bones for your dog to chew on are cow knuckle bones or thigh bones, not small dry bones that can splinter and puncture tissues. Avoid feeding your dog any table scraps—they are nutritionally unbalanced and promote dental disease and obesity!

Begging for More

1. Compare the labels between a general product and a special dietary product such as one developed for large breeds. Share the differences with your helper.
2. Make a chart of the different types of dog foods your dog group members use. Discuss how they are different.
3. Ask a veterinarian to teach you how to score a dog's body condition.

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper

Speak! (Share what you did)

- Which parasite that you investigated was the most interesting? Why?
- What resources did you use to help you with this activity?

Chew on This (Process what's important)

- How can parasites affect your dog's health?
- How is deciding to prevent and treat parasitism part of being a responsible dog owner?

Catch the Scent (Generalize to your life)

- Which dog parasites can affect your health?
- How do you show you have decided to be responsible for keeping yourself healthy?

Point the Way (Apply what you learned)

- After this activity, how will you change how you care for your dog's health?
- What other decisions do you have to make about your dog's health?

Dig This! The Ins and Outs of Parasites

Roundworms, Hookworms and Whipworms

These *nematodes* are found in the intestines. They rob dogs of blood and interfere with digestion and absorption of food nutrients. Dogs pick up parasite eggs from the feces of infected dogs; puppies can be infected by *larvae* across the *placenta* or in their mother's milk.

External Parasites

Ticks, fleas, mange mites and ear mites are common parasites. Treatment is helpful but prevention is better. Many products are available, so ask your veterinarian for advice. All cases of mange should be investigated by a veterinarian.

Heartworms

This parasite can kill. Immature heartworms are passed by mosquitoes from the blood of an infected dog into the next victim. Treatment is possible, but prevention is much better. Discuss it with your veterinarian.

Other Parasites

Coccidia are *protozoa* that invade the lining of the small intestine, causing bloody diarrhea and problems with digestion. The eggs survive a long time in your dog's environment. This can cause death due to *dehydration* and *shock*. Tapeworms are one of the least harmful parasites of dogs. Infection is usually detected by seeing dried tapeworm segments on the hair around a dog's tail.

Treatment and Prevention

Most parasites can be treated with *anthelmintics*; discuss these medications with your veterinarian. To prevent infection, remove feces immediately, rotate the location of where dogs are housed or tied, provide clean water and deworm dogs as needed, depending on the results of fecal examinations.

The Human Factor

If swallowed by humans, hookworm and roundworm larvae can travel to the eyes and internal organs and cause problems. Ticks, fleas and some mange mites can bother people. Some tapeworms can affect humans. Giardia and Cryptosporidia can cause severe intestinal problems in humans. Always wash your hands well after touching your dog, being outside and before eating!

• Protozoa
• Shock
• Placenta
• Parasitism
• Larva
• Dehydration
• Nematode
• Anthelmintic



Begging for More

1. Ask a veterinarian or veterinary technician to show you dog parasite eggs with a microscope. Draw and label what you see.
2. Create an educational poster about a parasite's life cycle. Show it to your helper and display it at your county fair.



Howl about this?

- Ear mites can infect both dogs and cats, so if one pet in a household is infected, all should be treated.
- Dogs can pick up one type of tapeworm if they swallow a flea and another type if they eat an infected rodent.

PAWS to Consider

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper

Speak! (Share what you did)

- What is the final number of puppies you created?
- How did this activity make you think and feel about homeless puppies?

Chew on This (Process what's important)

- How did the diagram help clarify the concept of pet overpopulation?
- Besides spaying and neutering your dog, what else is involved with being a responsible pet owner?

Catch the Scent (Generalize to your life)

- What are your experiences with homeless dogs, unwanted puppies and the pet overpopulation problem?
- What other information have you shown through diagrams?

Point the Way (Apply what you learned)

- How can you teach others about the importance of spaying and neutering pets?
- How could you use your diagram as an educational tool?



Pet Population Myths

The Humane Society of the United States estimates that 6 to 8 MILLION animals enter shelters every year and only half find homes; the rest must be euthanized. Responsible pet owners have their animals spayed and neutered so they don't contribute to the pet overpopulation problem.

Spaying and neutering are safe and routine operations when performed on healthy animals by experienced veterinarians. Some communities have low or reduced-cost programs to encourage dog owners to spay or neuter their pets.

Many myths surround pet reproduction. Here are the facts.

Myth	Fact
"A female dog will be a better pet if she has a litter."	Having a litter may change a dog's personality for the worse.
"A female dog shouldn't be spayed until she has had one heat cycle."	Waiting until she goes through a heat period increases the likelihood that a dog will become pregnant.
"There's no need to spay or neuter dogs that have no opportunity to come into contact with another dog and mate."	Besides preventing unwanted puppies, spaying and neutering dogs prevents serious health problems, including some cancers.
"My dog is very nice and I would like puppies just like him/her."	There is no guarantee that puppies will look or act like their parents. Also, pregnancies can cause health problems for a beloved female dog and can even be fatal.
"I'll be able to find good homes for all my dog's puppies."	These puppies will just be added to those that have already been born and need homes. Also, how do you know your puppies will go to GOOD homes and be well cared for?
"I'll be able to make money breeding my dog and selling puppies."	Perhaps you won't be able to sell all the dogs and will have to care for them into adulthood. Puppies need vaccinations, food, deworming and veterinary care. Also, the mother could have trouble during pregnancy or birth, which could create a large veterinary bill. You may not be able to find anyone interested in paying a breeding fee for your male dog unless he is a Champion.



www.n4hcc.org/dog

Pet overpopulation
Spay and neuter



Howl about this?

- Puppies are now being spayed and neutered when they are as young as 6 weeks old.

Begging for More

1. Watch a dog being spayed or neutered at a veterinary clinic or on an educational videotape.
2. Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper to educate people in your community about the importance of pet population control. Use facts and statistics from your local shelter about the homeless pet problem in your area if you can.

PAWS to Consider

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper

Speak! (Share what you did)

- Which performance event did you select for your dog? Why?
- Where did you get information about the performance event you chose for your dog?

Chew on This (Process what's important)

- How do a dog's characteristics make it well-suited or poorly suited for a certain performance event?
- How does selecting a sport for your dog help you practice your decision-making skills?

Catch the Scent (Generalize to your life)

- What are your special talents? How about your friends' talents?
- How do your talents influence the things that interest you or that you participate in?

Point the Way (Apply what you learned)

- How can you use performance events to improve your dog's showmanship and obedience abilities?



www.n4hcc.org/dog

Agility
Performance



Dig This!

P.E. Class for Dogs

Before dogs compete in performance events, they should master basic obedience commands such as heel, sit, down, stay and come. After your dog has learned these commands, it can be taught almost any dog sport for which you have interest and it has ability. Popular dog sports include:

- **Agility**—Course full of obstacles for dogs to go over and through, under the control of a handler.
- **Flyball**—Dogs run a course with four jumps, paw a lever to release a ball, catch the ball and run back to the start of the course with the ball.
- **Lure coursing**—Based on the natural chasing instincts of *Sighthounds* and other breeds. A lure is pulled along a course to test agility, skill, speed and endurance.
- **Earthdog**—A caged rodent is placed at the end of a series of tunnels. In competition, the first dog to enter the tunnel, find the rodent and bark is the winner.
- **Herding**—"Headers" control livestock with stares and positioning; "drovers" or "heelers" control livestock by nipping at their heels.
- **Hunting**—Dogs work in pursuit of prey, either alerting owners where prey is or retrieving it after it has been shot.
- **Tracking**—Competition that tests a dog's ability to follow a scent.
- **Breed-specific sports**—Competitions related to specific functions of some breeds, such as weight/sled pulling, water rescue and draft.

Agility • Earthdog • Herding • Lure Coursing • Tracking • Sighthounds • Draft



Begging for More

1. Ask a police K-9 officer or Canine Search and Rescue team to give a demonstration to your group. Take photos or video record it if you can.
2. Attend as many different canine performance events as you can and write down your observations. What dog breeds were involved? What cues did they respond to? Could your dog be trained to do this event? Why or why not?

PAWS to Consider

Discuss the answers to these questions with your helper

Speak! (Share what you did)

- What do you need to do to get ready for a showmanship class?
- What part of showmanship do you enjoy the most? Why?

Chew on This (Process what's important)

- Why is dog showmanship an important skill to practice?
- How do lists help you be prepared and organized for an event?

Catch the Scent (Generalize to your life)

- What aspects of grooming and showmanship apply to how you present yourself every day?
- What are the consequences of not being prepared and organized for an event?

Point the Way (Apply what you learned)

- How can you improve your showmanship skills?



www.n4hcc.org/dog

Showing

Howl about this?

- You may want to take along water from your home when you show. Some animals don't drink well when they are away from home because they don't like the taste of "strange" water.

Activity written by Derylee Hecimovich and Susan Kerr.



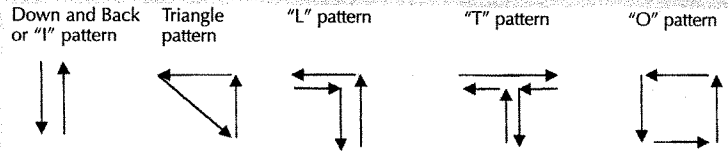
Time to Show Off!

Key Aspects of Dog Showmanship

Grooming—Dogs should be clean, trimmed and brushed. Handlers should be neat and professional.

Stacking—Dogs should stand squarely in front of or on the side left side of the handler.

Gaiting—Dog and handler move at a trot away and then back to the judge. The dog is on the handler's left side at most times. Common patterns are:



To Prepare for a Show

- Trim nails at least a week before the show
- Clip, trim, groom, and bathe dog; clean ears, eyes and nose
- Check on health requirements for the show (vaccinations, worming)
- Examine equipment for cleanliness, damage, wear
- Wash and iron show clothes
- Send in registration forms and entry fees for classes
- Check show book for rules
- Get clear directions to the show
- Study answers to questions that could be asked in showmanship class
- Practice proper showmanship techniques
- Train and condition dog
- Get the phone number of a veterinarian in the show area
- Arrange for transportation to the show
- Collect paperwork (health records, registration papers, etc.)

Things to Take

- Grooming equipment (brushes, scissors, Q-tips, toothbrush, etc.)
- Pooper scooper
- Food, treats
- Water
- Cash for food expenses
- Camera
- Extra collar
- Show collar
- Disinfectant
- First aid kits (human and dog)
- Water and food bowls
- Leash
- Identification and decorations for cage
- Sunscreen and insect repellent
- Cell phone
- Show clothes and shoes
- Registration papers
- Towels

• Stack • Gait • Showmanship



Begging for More

1. Make up 10 questions that could be used during a dog showmanship class and research the answers. Share what you created with your helper or group.
2. Watch dog shows on TV or attend as many AKC-sponsored dog shows as you can to watch professionals show their dogs. Share your observations with others.



Fido 911

Dogs are called humans' best friends, but if your dog has a medical emergency, you could become his best friend! It isn't always easy to tell if your dog has a life-threatening emergency. For some conditions, seconds count; for others, simple at-home procedures can save your dog's life. In this activity you'll practice how to take a dog's vital signs. You'll also investigate how to give first aid for some emergencies you could encounter with your dog, while keeping yourself safe at the same time.

Dog Project Skill: Assessing a dog's vital signs

Life Skill: Personal safety

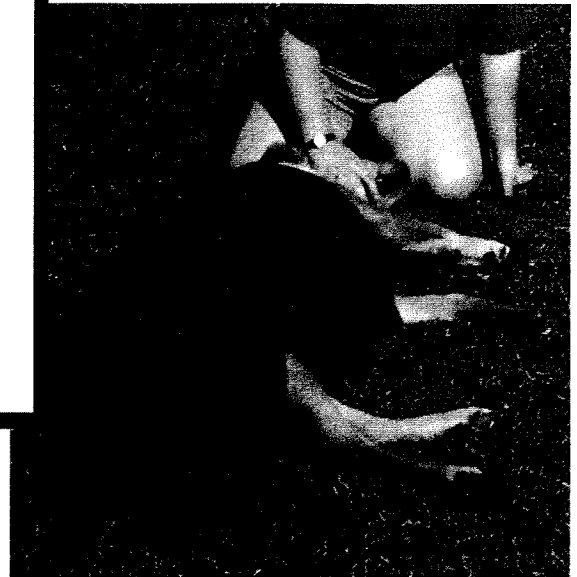
National Education Standard: NS.9-12.1.
Science as Inquiry: Abilities necessary to do scientific inquiry

Success Indicator: Recognizes a canine emergency and develops a plan of action.

Jump In With help from a friend or family member, take the vital signs on your dog. Remember to keep everyone safe; don't risk getting someone hurt just to measure one of the vital signs.



Feel for the femoral artery pulse on the inside of either thigh.



Keep an injured animal warm to help keep it from going into shock.

My Dog's Vital Signs

Temperature (T) _____ °F

Pulse (P) _____ beats per minute

Respiratory Rate (R) _____ breaths per minute

Mucous Membrane Color (MM) _____

Capillary Refill Time (CRT) _____ seconds

Normal Dog Vital Signs

T: _____ 101°F – 102.5°F

P: _____ 60–180 bpm

R: _____ 15–30 breaths per minute,
up to 200 pants per minute

MM: _____ pink, moist

CRT: _____ 1–2 seconds



An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!





Speak! (*Share what you did*)

- What were your dog's vital signs?
- Which vital sign was the easiest to measure? The most difficult? Why?

Chew on This (*Process what's important*)

- Why is it important to take your dog's vital signs if you think she is hurt or ill?
- Why should you always keep human safety in mind when trying to help a sick or injured animal?

Catch the Scent (*Generalize to your life*)

- What types of first aid have you given or received?
- How is first aid for dogs similar to first aid for humans? How is it different?

Point the Way (*Apply what you learned*)

- How can you prevent injuries and illnesses in your dog?
- How can you make your activities and environment safer for you?

• Vital signs • CPR • Toxic



Howl about this?

- Never call emergency 911 for a pet emergency!
- Don't apply a splint if your dog is resisting—you could make the break worse
- Don't apply a tourniquet to a bleeding limb. Instead, keep applying pressure and adding absorbent bandage materials over the original pressure bandage. If you must apply a tourniquet, be prepared for the dog to possibly lose the limb below the tourniquet.



www.n4hcc.org/dog

First aid

Canine first aid is the immediate, temporary care given to a dog until he can be transported to a veterinarian. *Never put yourself at risk to help an injured or sick dog!* Get help from an adult to approach and assess the dog. Even your own dog may require a muzzle to let you examine and move him safely if he is in pain and scared. Vital signs help you assess what is going on inside a dog's body.

Temperature. Have an assistant restrain your dog. Put gloves on. Put lubricant on the tip of the thermometer and gently insert it about an inch into your dog's rectum. Leave it there for one minute. Remove, take the reading. Clean the thermometer with disinfectant and wash your hands.

Pulse. Gently feel inside your dog's inner thigh for a soft, pulsing artery. Count the number of pulses that occur within 15 seconds and multiply by four to get heartbeats per minute.

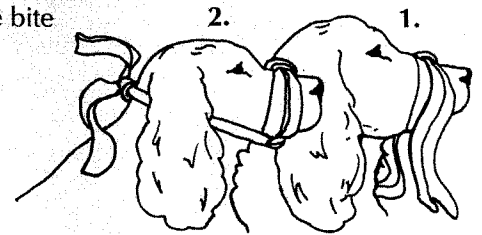
Respiration. Watch your dog's chest move out with each breath. Count the number of breaths that occur within 15 seconds and multiply by four to get breaths per minute.

Mucous Membrane Color. Use your dog's gums or inside of his lips to assess mucous membrane color. Pink is the normal color. Abnormal colors include white, pale pink, blue, yellow, brownish or gray.

Capillary Refill Time. With the tip of your finger, gently press the gum or inside of the lips until the pinkish color turns to white. Pull your finger away and count how long it takes for the pink color to return.

Common Emergencies

- Trauma
- Ingestion of toxic substances
- Bee sting
- Poisonous reptile bite
- Electrocutation
- Heatstroke



Use gauze or soft rope to make a quick dog muzzle. Make a loop around the dog's nose and tie a half-hitch knot on top. Tie another half-hitch knot below, then tie a slip knot behind the dog's ears. All knots should be very snug.

Begging for More

1. Visit your library and check out a book on pet first aid to learn more. Take notes on what you discover.
2. Ask your veterinarian if you can volunteer at the veterinary clinic for at least a day. Keep a journal about the dog emergencies you saw. How could these problems have been prevented?
3. Demonstrate how to perform canine CPR.



Speak! (*Share What you did*)

- What are the body systems of the dog?
- What was the easiest part of doing a demonstration? The hardest?

Chew on This (*Process what's important*)

- Which body system do you think is the most important and why?
- Why are demonstrations an effective way to share what you know with others?

Catch the Scent (*Generalize to your life*)

- How are dogs' body systems similar to and different from humans' systems?
- What other formal or informal demonstrations have you given or could you give?

Point the Way (*Apply what you learned*)

- If you had to give it again, what changes would you make in your demonstration?
- How will you use what you learned to understand signs of illness in your dog in the future?

• Hormones • Gonads • Necropsy

Canine Body Systems		
System	Function	Parts
Respiratory system	Removes carbon dioxide from the body and brings oxygen into the body	Lungs, trachea, larynx, sinuses, nasal passages and nostrils
Cardiovascular system	Transports blood rich in oxygen to body tissues and blood rich in carbon dioxide from the tissues; transports nutrients to tissues	Heart, arteries, veins, capillaries, lymph vessels, bone marrow and spleen
Integument system	Protects the body; first line of defense against invaders	Skin, nails, claws, hair, fur and pads
Nervous system	Receives and responds to information from the environment and controls subconscious, voluntary and automatic body reflexes and processes	Brain, nerves and spinal cord
Musculoskeletal system	Supports an animal's body and helps it move around	Bones, joints, muscles, cartilage, tendons and ligaments
Gastrointestinal system	Digests food and absorbs nutrients	Mouth, teeth, tongue, esophagus, stomach, small intestine, large intestine, rectum, anus, salivary glands, pancreas, liver and gall bladder
Endocrine system	Makes and releases hormones that help animal respond to changes in environment and keeps body systems functioning normally	Pituitary gland, kidneys, adrenal glands, gonads, pancreas, thyroid glands and parathyroid glands
Urinary system	Removes wastes from the body and controls mineral balances	Kidneys, ureters, bladder and urethra
Reproductive system	Produces offspring	Male: testicles, epididymis, spermatic cord, urethra, seminal vesicles, prostate gland, bulbourethral glands and penis Female: ovaries, oviducts, uterus, cervix, vagina, vestibulum, vulva and mammary glands

Howl about this?

- Lungs have a natural elastic quality that helps with exhalation.



www.n4hcc.org/dog

Body systems



Begging for More

1. Call your veterinarian and arrange to observe a necropsy on a dog. Put protective gloves on; identify and feel the different organs.
2. Perform a physical examination on a cooperative dog. Examine each body system as best you can. Record your findings and share them with your helper.



Old = Gold

Speak! *(Share what you did)*

- How did you locate the dog you studied?
- How did you prepare for the interview with the dog's owner?

Chew on This *(Process what's important)*

- What factors affect how a family feels about and cares for their older dog?
- Why are interviews such an effective and educational form of communication?

Catch the Scent *(Generalize to your life)*

- What are some other situations in which you need to use interviewing skills?
- What special procedures are available to help treat age-related problems in both dogs and humans?

Point the Way *(Apply what you learned)*

- How can you help others prepare for their older dog's special needs?
- What can you do to help reduce the chances of your dog developing an age-related problem?

Behavior changes. Even nice dogs may start snapping at people and animals due to arthritis or other sources of pain. Some dogs may get lost in familiar places and not recognize family members. Medications are available to help some age-related changes in your dog's brain.

Hypothyroidism. The thyroid gland may stop producing normal amounts of thyroid hormone. Affected dogs gain weight, seek warmth and are lethargic. Medication is available to help these dogs.

Senses. As dogs lose their eyesight and hearing, it affects the way that they are able to interpret their environment. They may seem more reactive, even fearful. Cataract surgery can greatly improve vision.

Incontinence. Some older dogs soil their environment due to decreased control of muscles. Medications are available to help with this problem.

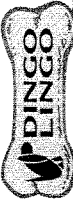
Obesity. As dogs become less active, they often become overweight. Feed a dog according to its requirements, not habit.

Dental disease. As dogs age, their teeth and gums may become diseased, which may lead to bacterial heart disease. You may notice bad breath and a decreased appetite. Veterinarians can clean and extract teeth and teach you how to keep them healthy.

Kidney disease. Signs of illness include increased drinking and urination, weight loss and listlessness. With dietary changes and routine veterinary visits to monitor progression of disease, dogs with kidney disease can live longer lives.

Cancer. Cancer can affect any organ or tissue. Signs of cancer can include bleeding from the nose, skin nodules, enlarged lymph nodes, decreased appetite and listlessness. Routine veterinary examinations and owner observations are important in early diagnosis of cancer. Surgery, chemotherapy and/or radiation can be used to treat some cancers.

• Geriatric • Incontinence



Begging for More

1. Call your local animal shelter to see if they are housing any geriatric dogs. If so, visit the shelter and observe differences between the older dogs and the puppies you see. Discuss with the staff how old dogs can be made more adoptable.
2. Compare the dog food labels on a puppy food and senior food. What are the major differences in nutritional content between the two diets? Discuss with your helper why these differences are important for the health of older dogs.



www.n4hcc.org/dog

Geriatric dogs

Planning a Puppy Pre-School

Puppies are cute and fun, but all that energy can mean chaos for a family if the puppy is not properly socialized and trained! It's a good idea for new dog owners to enroll in a puppy class to channel all that "puppy power" into a polite pet the whole family can enjoy. In this activity, you will conduct your own "puppy pre-school" and sharpen your leadership skills along the way. Be prepared for the unexpected—something fun always happens at puppy pre-school!

Dog Project Skill: Conducting a class for puppies

Life Skill: Leadership

National Education Standard:
NS.9-12.3: Life Science: Behavior of organisms

Success Indicator: Conducts a puppy training class.

Jump In **P**lan and conduct a puppy training class for three or more dogs less than one year of age. Outline what you would do in three sessions one week apart. Ask for input from trainers, veterinarians and other people familiar with dog behavior and training. After you conduct the classes, describe what happened at one of the classes in the space below.



Plan your puppy pre-school well so it will be a success!

Week 1 Session

Week 2 Session

Week 3 Session

What Happened at One of the Classes

Howl about this?

- Some puppies experience a "fear period" between the ages of 14 and 16 weeks.



Thanks for Looking Out for Me!

Speak! (Share what you did)

- How did you feel as you tried to get around by yourself while blindfolded?
- How did it feel to have someone help you get around safely?

Chew on This (Process what's important)

- How is raising a puppy an example of teamwork?
- Why are puppy raisers needed?

Catch the Scent (Generalize to your life)

- When are other times you've had to rely on someone else for help?
- Of what other teams have you been a member?

Point the Way (Apply what you learned)

- How can you encourage others to become puppy raisers?
- How can you be an *advocate* for visually-impaired people in your community?

• Advocate • Intelligent disobedience



Begging for More

1. Investigate one of the guide dog institutes in more depth. Consider becoming a puppy raiser—write down all the pros and cons and share them with your helper.
2. Lead a public relations campaign in your community to promote the puppy raising program. Work closely with the guide dog organization so you meet all their guidelines and requirements.

Guide dog breeds include German Shepherds, Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, Poodles, Smooth-Coated Collies and others. Golden/Labrador crosses are becoming popular due to fewer inherited problems in these mixed-breed dogs.

What's the difference between a well-trained dog and a guide dog? It's all in the obedience. Most owners want their trained dog to respond immediately with the correct action. Guide dogs are taught to be *intelligently disobedient*, or "think" before acting. Guide dogs are trained for certain scenarios and know what to do to keep handlers safe. If the handler gives a guide dog a command, the dog will not obey unless it is safe to do so.

Producing a good guide dog involves many steps: wise breeding; careful selection according to physical characteristics, health, personality and attitude; care and basic training from a dedicated puppy raiser; professional training at a service dog organization; careful matching with the right owner; and successful training of the dog-owner pair. Guide dogs usually work for seven to eight years.

If you see a person using a guide dog, never pet the dog, grab onto its harness or interfere with the dog's job. The dog is "on duty" and must concentrate on guiding his owner. Many owners are happy to talk about their four-legged partner with you if you just ask.



Being cute AND smart is hard work!



www.n4hcc.org/dog

Guide Dogs for the Blind
The Seeing Eye

Is Your Dog a Good Citizen?

Is your dog a good citizen or would he appear on the canine equivalent of "America's Most Wanted?" The American Kennel Club (AKC) sponsors the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) program. What is it? Would your dog qualify? How many dogs in your area are good citizens? Through this activity, you'll discover the answer to these questions as you plan and organize a CGC testing program.

Dog Project Skill: Assessing dogs as good citizens

Life Skill: Planning and organizing

National Educational Standard:
NSS-C.9-12.5 Roles of the Citizen

Success Indicator: Conducts a Canine Good Citizen training program.



Testing reaction to another dog.

Jump In

1. Request the CGC packet from the AKC; see the contact information on page 19.

2. Organize a training program to teach the skills needed for the CGC test. Here are some questions to consider while planning your event; record your answers in the chart.

Question	Answer
What is the schedule and timeline for your training program?	
Who can help you teach the class?	
How will you advertise the program?	
What are the minimum and maximum numbers of people you want in the program?	
What facilities and equipment will you need?	
How will you evaluate participants' progress?	
Other:	

3. Organize your own CGC testing event. Here are some questions to consider while planning your event; record your answers in the chart.

Question	Answer
Who will be the lead evaluator?	
Who will help test the dogs?	
What is the schedule and timeline for your testing session?	
What facilities and equipment will you need?	
What are the minimum and maximum numbers of people you tested?	
How will you advertise the test?	
Will there be other events at the same time (licensing, micro-chipping, rabies vaccination clinic...)?	
Who will sponsor the testing event?	
Will there be a charge for taking the test?	
Other:	

4. Evaluate your event. Complete the CGC evaluation and attach it to this page.



He is your friend, your partner, your defender, your dog.

You are his life, his love, his leader.

He will be yours, faithful and true, to the last beat of his heart.

You owe it to him to be worthy of such devotion.

—Anonymous



Speak! (*Share what you did*)

- What diseases did you investigate?
- What resources did you discover?

Chew on This (*Process what's important*)

- Which of the diseases you investigated is the most serious and why?
- Why do you need to be able to identify good sources of information?

Catch the Scent (*Generalize to your life*)

- What are your favorite sources of information?
- What public health diseases have you heard about before?

Point the Way (*Apply what you learned*)

- What will you tell other dog owners about diseases transmitted by dogs?
- What can you do to reduce your chances of getting these diseases?

• Zoonotic • Transmission • Infectious

Zoonotic (zoo-ah-NAH-tick) diseases are *infectious* diseases that can be passed from animals to humans. Some are more common or serious, so dog owners should be aware of them.

Disease	Signs of illness	Cause	Prevention
Rabies	Paralysis, change in behavior, death	Rabies virus	Vaccination
Ringworm	Patches of red, raised, itchy skin on humans; patchy hair loss on animals	Fungus	Wear gloves when touching affected animals
Cutaneous Larval Migrants	Itchy, red bumps or blisters on feet, toes, hands, knees, anus	Hookworm larvae	Wear gloves when working with dirt; wash hands before eating; remove dog feces and deworm dog
Visceral Larval Migrants	Depends on tissues invaded by worm—blindness, seizures, etc.	Roundworm larvae	Wear gloves when working with dirt; wash hands before eating; remove dog feces and deworm dog
Cat Scratch Fever	Swollen lymph nodes	Bacteria from animal bite or scratch	Avoid animal bites and scratches; disinfect wounds well
Sarcoptic Mange	Hair loss, red and itchy skin	Mange mite	Treat infected animals; avoid skin-to-skin contact with infected animals

Prevention

- Keep your dog up-to-date on vaccinations and deworming
- WASH HANDS before eating and after handling dogs, removing dog wastes or gardening
- Disinfect skin wounds promptly
- Avoid handling any sick or strange-acting animal
- Wear gloves when working in dirt
- Do not let dogs come in contact with live or dead wildlife



Howl about this?

- Both humans and dogs can contract Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and Lyme disease by being bitten by an infected tick. Dogs do not directly spread these diseases to people.
- You can learn more about zoonotic diseases from veterinarians, a county public health department, physicians, school nurses and other health care providers.



www.n4hcc.org/dog

Zoonotic diseases

Begging for More

1. Investigate more zoonotic diseases transmissible by dogs. List the name of the disease, cause, signs of illness in people, signs of illness in dogs, how the disease can be transmitted and how to prevent the disease.
2. Contact the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia or visit their Web site. Ask for statistics on zoonotic diseases in the U.S. for the last 10 years. Using a map of the U.S., identify where these cases have occurred. Looking at the data, what trends do you see over the past decade?

pup is in your house, you will want to spend time with him without worrying about potential hazards.

'Puppy proofing' also gives you time to think about the responsibilities of having this pup. Are you ready to get up in the middle of the night when your puppy needs to go outside?

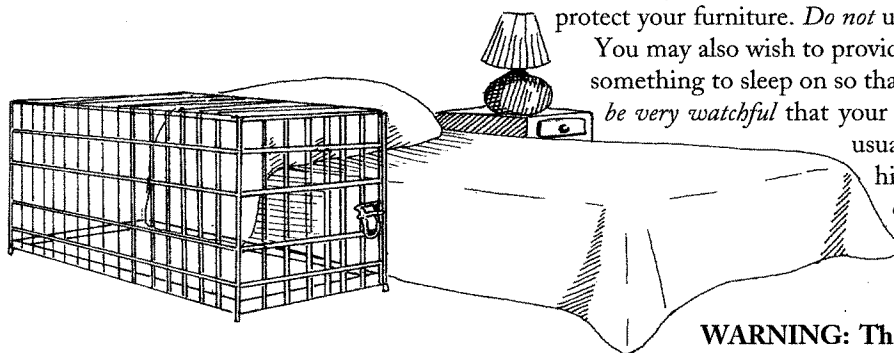
As mentioned, Guide Dogs are house dogs. If at all possible, your pup should sleep in *your* bedroom. In some cases, your leader may approve the pup sleeping in another part of the house (mom's room, hallway in front of your bedroom). Dogs are creatures of habit and like to know their place. Choose where you want your puppy to sleep, and prepare a puppy 'bed'.

A crate is strongly recommended, whether you plan to raise one or several pups. This crate should be a size 400, or the equivalent to fit a grown dog, and may be made of fiberglass or welded wire. The club may have a few to loan out; you may be able to borrow one; or you may have to purchase one.

If you cannot obtain a crate, you may be able to restrain your puppy on a 24 to 32 inch 'tie down' attached to an 'eye' bolt screwed into the wall. A plastic coated chain or cable is best to protect your furniture. *Do not* use a leash for this; your pup *will* chew through it.

You may also wish to provide your pup with a washable mat, an old blanket, or something to sleep on so that this area becomes his special spot. But you should *be very watchful* that your pup does not chew this bedding (a behavior that usually indicates boredom or a form of play). Teach him early the difference between what is OK to chew (one of HIS toys) and what is not (YOUR toys or possessions).

More on this later.



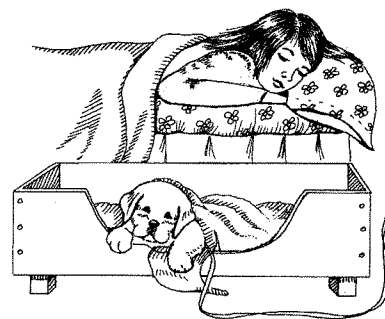
WARNING: The crate or tie-down should NEVER be used as a place of PUNISHMENT.

Also, your puppy should *never* be left in the crate, or on his tie-down, for more than 3-4 hours (unless it is at night when you are both sleeping).

If you are worried about how the crate might affect your room's decor, we have heard from many puppy raisers that a crate makes a great nightstand.

Your dog will also need a safe place OUTDOORS. If you don't have an adequately fenced yard, you could build a 'run' approximately 6 feet high, 4 to 6 feet wide, and 10 to 15 feet long. If you decide to build a run, make sure to use fencing material strong enough so that a grown dog cannot pull it apart, dig under it, or climb over it. The run should include a shelter from sun, rain and draft. Some families have found that portable (6x10x10 feet) chain-link dog runs are very convenient. Again, ask your leader for advice.

YOUR PUPPY SHOULD NEVER BE CHAINED OR TIED OUTSIDE AND THEN LEFT UNSUPERVISED!



Puppy-Proofing Your House

Puppies are a lot like toddlers. They are very curious and do not always use good judgment. If you have had younger brothers or sisters, you remember all the things your parents did to make the house safe for baby's explorations. You probably also remember that they did not allow the baby to explore without close supervision. The same rules apply to a puppy, and it is your responsibility to keep the puppy safe. Chemicals, paints, solvents, electrical outlets — even common plants — can all be deadly to your puppy.

The following list includes some of the more common poisonous substances found in many households. There are many, **many** more . . .

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Ant Stakes | Antifreeze |
| Chocolate | Dieffenbachia plants |
| Fertilizers | Solvents (automotive, insecticide, household or cleaning) |
| Japanese Yew | Human medications |
| Mistletoe | Oleander bushes |
| Peach pits | Philodendrons |
| Poinsettias | Potato 'Eyes' |



ARRIVAL AND HOUSETRAINING

Arrival

How exciting . . . Guide Dogs has called you to make arrangements for delivery of your puppy. He is finally arriving!! He will be sharing the next 12 to 16 months with you and your family.

While this is very exciting for you, please realize that your home and family are new experiences for your pup. Keep in mind that he has just left his kennel, his brothers and sisters, and all the old familiar smells and sounds. Getting used to becoming a part of your family and his new world is a big first step. Try to make this adjustment as enjoyable as possible for your puppy.

Before he enters your house, give your pup time to go to the bathroom outside. Carry him to the spot where you want him to 'go' regularly. If he does relieve, praise him for it (*good puppy!*). Offer him a drink of water and some puppy food (1/2 to 1 cup). Allow him to explore, meet people and the family pet(s) gradually, at his own pace. Try to keep family members, friends, and other pets from overwhelming the pup with attention.

Do not allow him free run of the house yet. He may get into trouble by accident. He needs affection, a lot of rest, and time to adjust to his new environment. Training lessons (other than house breaking) can wait four or five days.

That Evening . . .

Before you put your puppy on the tie-down or in his crate for the evening, play with him in the yard or take him for a short walk. Give him enough exercise just to get him tired and ready for bed. Give him one last time for a 'potty' break. **PRAISE HIM** when he is finished ("good boy!" . . . "atta puppy!").

Now, your puppy has been exercised and has 'done his business'. Spend a minute or two soothing and quieting him down if he needs it. Take him to the crate or the area you picked for his 'bed'. While talking to him in a soothing voice, place him gently in the crate. If you use a 'bed' for him, make sure he can comfortably turn around while on his tie-down.

You may wish to place a Nylabone with him to make him comfortable and give him something to do if he wakes up in the middle of the night.

Close the door on the crate, turn out the light, and quietly leave the room. Better yet, you might want to be ready for bed also and go to sleep. You're going to want to catch all the sleep you can!

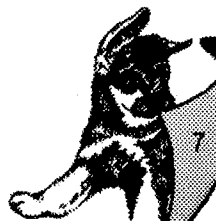
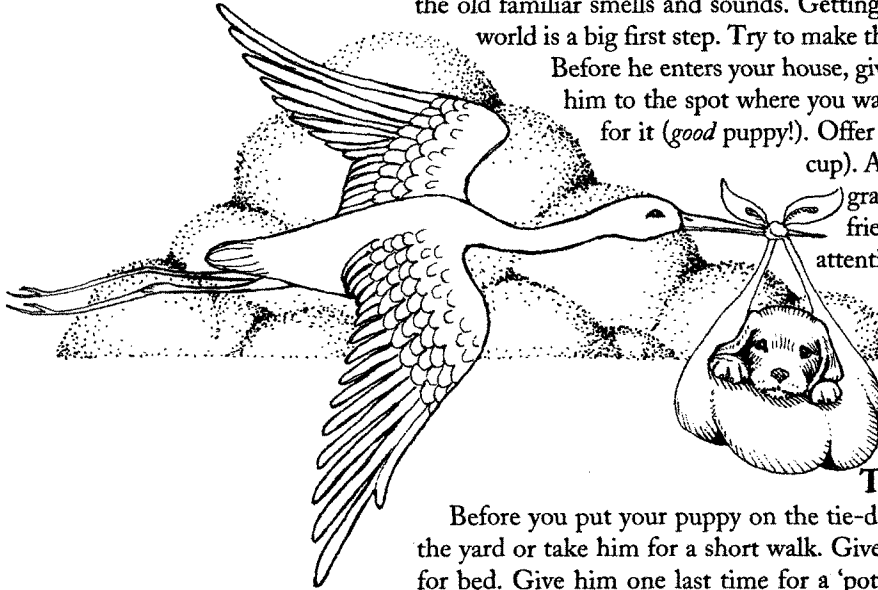
If your puppy starts to cry, **DO NOT** go to him for comfort. That will only teach him that crying will bring rewards.

It is all right to quietly tell him: "It's OK pup, I'm here. Now go to sleep", but do not pet or pamper him.

Your puppy may very well cry for a long time. **IGNORE IT!** This may be hard to do, but — **IGNORE IT!** Soon the puppy will figure out that crying does not change his situation, and he'll get tired and go to sleep. This probably won't happen any longer than the first few nights . . . so . . . perhaps you should plan to be a bit tired (and a bit grouchy?) for a few days . . .

Helpful Hints

- Be sure that the 'bed' you pick for your pup is a **SAFE** place. You don't want him to get his paw or collar caught in the middle of the night.
- A ticking clock or softly playing radio may help keep your puppy quiet.
- Do not place items in his crate or bed that your puppy can shred or accidentally swallow.



EARS. Keep them clean by wiping the inside with a damp cloth (or Baby Wipes) at least once a week. Large amounts of wax, if allowed to collect, can be the beginning of ear infections. Use an otic cleanser (such as Ear-Rite) to clean each ear by putting three or four drops inside, then massage the base of the ear gently for ten to thirty seconds. After letting him shake out the excess, wipe your pup's ears with gauze or cotton wrapped around your finger. **DO NOT** stick your finger in too deeply, and **DO NOT** use Q-tips for cleaning ears.

EYES. Clean his face by wiping it gently with a damp cloth. It is normal for small amounts of matter to gather at the corners of a dog's eyes. This can easily be wiped away by dabbing each corner with a small cottonball moistened with water. **DO NOT** touch the eyeball since cotton fibers can scratch.

TEETH. You should clean your puppy's teeth and gums weekly by rubbing them gently with gauze wrapped around your index finger.

NAILS. Your pup's nails should be kept short by trimming them once a week. Long nails may cause the toes to spread, putting unnecessary stress on the wrist joints (called 'pasterns'). Long nails also can scratch people, furniture, and floors. For the first two or three weeks, get your puppy used to this routine without actually cutting the nails. Firmly touch each toe and nail with one hand while you steady his paw with your other hand. If the pup struggles, correct him by shaking him with the collar, saying firmly "NO, stay". **DO NOT** jerk on his leg!! It may cause damage, and will only result in frightening him more.

Once he is comfortable with you handling his paws in this way, you can start trimming nails. You may want to ask for help from a family member to steady and comfort the pup the first few times you do this. Hold the paw in one hand, and take one toe at a time between your thumb and index finger. This allows you to control how much of each nail to trim with the clipper in your other hand. Please take off just a tiny bit to avoid cutting into the 'quick'. The 'quick' is a blood vein that runs part way up the nail. If your pup has light-colored nails, it is easy to see the 'quick' and you can trim just in front of it. If his nails are dark, the 'quick' will be hidden, so you must be more careful. This is why we suggest you trim just the tips *once a week*.

If you do accidentally cut into the 'quick' and cause a little bleeding, **DO NOT PANIC**. Simply use alum or a styptic powder (both available at a pet store or the veterinarian) on the nail to stop the bleeding. If you have neither, gently press a dry piece of gauze or cotton against the toe for a few minutes.

BATHS. Cleanliness *does not* mean frequent bathing. Dogs do not perspire like we do, and bathing can wash away the natural oils from the pup's coat. Unless your pup is filthy or has rolled in something stinky, you don't need to bathe him more than three or five times a year. If you do have to bathe him, groom him first to remove matted hair or the unwanted stuff that's on his coat. Tuck a large cotton ball in each ear to prevent water from entering. *Be sure to remove the cotton after the bath.*

Do not use a human shampoo; buy one that is made for dogs!! Thoroughly rinse out the shampoo, let the pup shake off most of the water, and then towel dry him. Some pups will get used to a blow-dryer, but please watch that the air is not too hot. While he's wet, keep him out of drafts (and out of the dirt).

While grooming, inspect your pup for fleas and ticks. Both are a common cause of skin problems, and should be removed as soon as they're seen. Run your hands over the skin, checking for bumps or scabs. By removing surface dirt and stimulating natural oils, grooming helps to clean and keep the pup's coat and skin healthy.

Grooming is also a way to bond with your puppy. Touch your puppy often: his feet, check his mouth, tail, ears. Gently, but firmly, roll him over to reach different parts of his body. It teaches him to remain calm while being handled, and teaches him that you are in control. Keep it fun for both of you and praise your puppy often.



interrupt the life cycle of the flea. Since outside control is a bit more involved, a professional exterminator may be preferred.

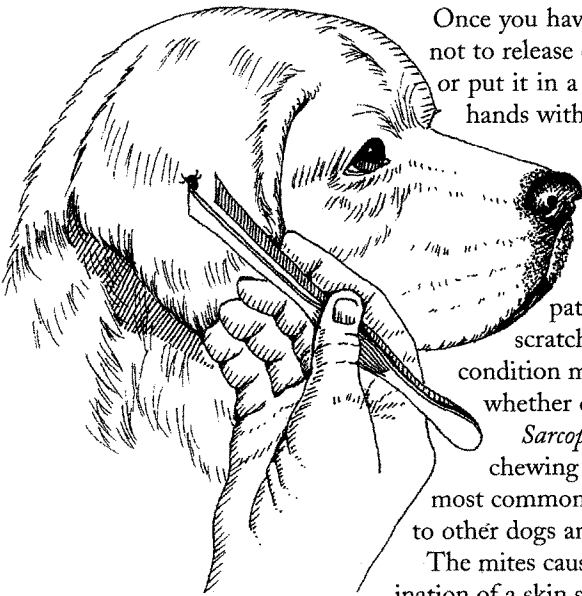
Controlling Fleas Is Not An Easy One-Time Procedure!

It takes persistence to keep this problem in check. If you are not sure which method to use please check with GDB or your leader.

Ticks

As mentioned under the section on grooming, touching your puppy gives you the opportunity to check him for ticks. Should you find a tick, you may first want to smother it with vaseline, a small amount of flea or tick spray or even clear nail polish. Then the tick can be removed with tweezers (you should not handle the tick with your fingers). Grasp the tick with the tweezers as closely as possible to the dog's skin and pull upward using steady even pressure. The tick's head can break off if a twisting or jerking motion is applied. If this happens, don't panic; with disinfectant, the wound will cure itself. A tick granuloma (crusty growth) may appear up to a few days after tick removal, as a reaction to the tick's saliva. No treatment is necessary and it should be gone in a week or so.

Once you have removed the tick, take care not to squeeze, crush or puncture its body so as not to release contaminated fluids or eggs. Dispose of the tick by flushing it down the toilet or put it in a container of alcohol. Disinfect the bite wound on your puppy and wash your hands with soap and water after you have completed this procedure.



Mange

This is a skin disease caused by parasitic mites and characterized by patchy hair loss. There are two types of mange common to dogs:

Demodectic mange causes hairless patches usually on the face or legs. These patches slowly grow larger and the skin may be red. The puppy will seldom scratch. This form of mange is not contagious to other dogs or humans. While this condition may resolve itself, you should still contact your veterinarian so he can determine whether or not treatment is necessary.

Sarcoptic mange causes intense itching, to which the pup will react by scratching, chewing and rubbing. This often leads to inflammation and secondary infections. The most common areas to be affected are the ears, legs and belly. Sarcoptic mange is contagious to other dogs and to people, but it is easily cured by your veterinarian.

The mites causing this disease are extremely small and can only be seen by microscopic examination of a skin scrape. If you suspect that your pup has mange, please consult your veterinarian.

"In Season"

The scientific name for this is the estrous cycle, commonly referred to as the 'heat' cycle. A female puppy may come 'into season' sometime between the ages of 6 to 12 months. The beginning of the cycle may be signaled by a swelling of the vulva area accompanied by a clear or white discharge. Shortly thereafter a bright bloody discharge will occur. This heat period will continue for approximately 21 days. Usually, the heat cycle occurs twice a year, but in 10% of females, another short interval will occur three weeks after the first. As soon as she displays this discharge or the swelling, she **MUST** be placed in a boarding kennel, or with a veterinarian, for 3 weeks. It is best *not* to visit your puppy during this period as your presence may upset her adjustment to the kennel. GDB will pay the boarding bill for your female puppy (please remember to complete and mail in one of the veterinary forms!). If you live near the San Rafael or Topanga Canyon facility, call and find out if we have space to board your puppy while she is in season.

DO NOT have your puppy spayed or neutered unless written permission is received from Guide Dogs for the Blind.





Dog Collars

Speak! (Share what you did)

- Which training tools were available today?
- Which training tool is your favorite? Why?

Chew on This (Process what's important)

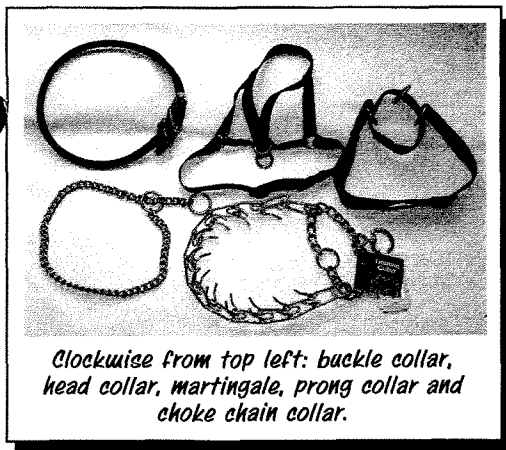
- Which training tool did you decide would be best for your dog? Why?
- How does each of the training tools work?

Catch the Scent (Generalize to your life)

- Which training tools have you used before? How effective were they?
- What do you like to do before you make an important decision?

Point the Way (Apply what you learned)

- How will you change the training tools you use on your dog as it gains more skills?
- What are some careers that involve the ability to make important decisions quickly?



Clockwise from top left: buckle collar, head collar, martingale, prong collar and choke chain collar.

• Aversive: causes avoidance of an unpleasant stimulus



Choke Chain Collar. This is used widely for obedience because it is one of two collars allowed in AKC competition. The handler offers a correction by giving a quick upward jerk on the end attached to the leash. This collar does not have a “stop” to the amount of chain you can pull through and needs to be monitored carefully, especially with how hard and long youth pull on the end of the chain. The leash should never be tight unless the youth is issuing a correction and then it should be immediately loosened.

Flat Buckle Collar. This is the other choice AKC offers to obedience competitors. This collar offers the least resistance on the dog’s neck and works well where the handler and dog have a good bond.

Head Collars. Also known as a head halter, a head collar is an alternative to an aversive collar. When properly fitted, the handler has control of the dog’s head. Thorough familiarization with proper use of this tool is essential for dog acceptance and successful training.

Martingale Collars. These tools are popular in the breed ring and have some popularity in obedience training because they reduce the amount of choking, are “escape-proof” and reduce coat damage. The amount of control varies depending on the dog’s breed, size and behavior.

Prong Collar. This tool is an interlocking chain of blunt, metal prongs connected by a loop of small link chain. Contrary to its looks, this collar is humane because it will only tighten a limited amount and less pressure and strength are needed as compared to the choke collar. The owner should attach the leash to the two rings on the collar to evaluate the dog’s reaction to tightening before moving down to one ring. Only small- or medium-sized links should be used.

Clicker Training. This is a fun, non-aversive training technique that gives an animal feedback about its behavior. A sharp sound is produced by the clicker when the trainer presses it. The purpose is to mark a desired behavior being performed by the dog. It is as though the trainer is saying “THAT is what I want you to do.” The animal hears the sound and associates the action it performed with a positive reward it received during clicker training.



Dog training clicker



The goal is for a dog to learn to keep the leash loose and not pull the handler.



www.n4hcc.org/dog

Training Tools

Begging for More

1. Using only a clicker, train a dog to perform a new trick and demonstrate it to a group.
2. Make an educational poster about training tools and display it at your county fair.
3. Give a public demonstration about the use of dog training tools.

Beginning Training Is Terrific

Obedience training in a group setting teaches dogs obedience skills as well as how to deal with other dogs, distractions, strange surroundings, etc. It is also an excellent opportunity for youth to interact with other youth, make long-term plans and take pride in their accomplishments. This activity will provide you with the basic information needed to assist with a basic dog obedience class. Youth will practice their planning skills as they set training goals and create plans to achieve them.

Dog Project Skill: Obedience training a dog

Life Skill: Planning and Organizing

National Education Standard: NL-ENG.K-12.12: Applying Language Skills

Success Indicator: Teaches a dog seven basic commands.

Time Involved: Four lessons, 30–60 minutes each

Suggested Group Size: 10–12 youth

Materials Needed: Dog, leash, appropriate facility, plastic bags, paper towels, waste receptacle, disinfectant

Take the Bait! Instructions are included for the following commands: Sit, Down and Stand (Lesson 1), Building Blocks (Lesson 2), Heel and Recall (Lesson 3) and Finish and Back (Lesson 4).

Class Preparation

- For youth to be able to work with their dog with hands free, have the leash wrapped around the waist and attached to the dog, tether the dog to a secure post or have the dog held by a second person
- Create a quiet, distraction-free environment
- Make sure dogs have well-fitted collars
- Use 6-foot cotton, leather, or nylon leashes. No chain leashes
- Provide dog treats: hot dogs, liver, cheese, etc.
- Obtain nail apron—buy these at a hardware store or make one
- Provide clickers or other tools to mark signals
- Ensure flooring has good traction
- Provide access to drinking water for dogs
- Provide clean up bags, gloves, waste containers, paper towels, disinfectant
- Require appropriate clothing: does not get in the way of the dog; no hard leather-soled footwear;

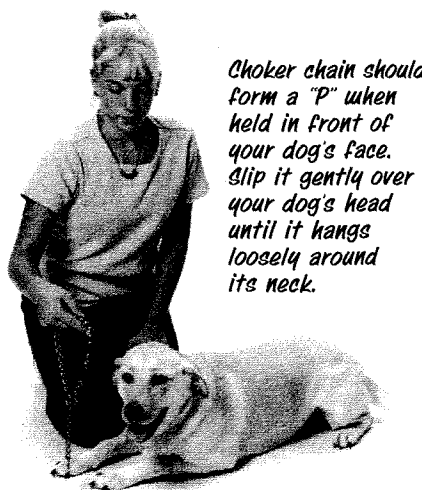
Jump In

These first two steps will help youth prepare for the training lessons to follow.

1. Everyone has different training goals, so ask youth what their dog training expectations are. Although all dogs can be trained to perform obedience exercises, some learn more quickly than others. Help youth set realistic goals for themselves and their dogs; these goals should be written down and signed by both you and the youth...and the dog!
2. Have youth create a notebook to make a training plan and record. Include:
 - Date of training
 - Training location
 - Other people and dogs present
 - Noteworthy distractions
 - Behavior being trained
 - Number of times you have trained for this behavior before
 - Session start and end times
 - Specific criteria for the session
 - Number of responses/number of errors
 - Notes
 - Other information



Always allow four fingers to be put between your dog's neck and the collar.



Choker chain should form a "P" when held in front of your dog's face. Slip it gently over your dog's head until it hangs loosely around its neck.



When the choker chain is positioned correctly it will only tighten when tension is applied. Keep your dog on your left side.



Your dog can earn AKC obedience titles as it progresses in obedience exercises!

Sparkling Teeth

Does your dog have "bad breath"? This is often the first sign of mouth trouble and gum disease. Untreated gum disease leads to tooth decay. Sound familiar? In this activity you'll learn one method to keep your dog's teeth, ears and eyes healthy.

Practicing preventative health care.
Life Skill:
Developing responsibility
Show What You Know:
Demonstrate how to care for a dog's eyes, ears or teeth.

Jump In

Demonstrate to your helper or family how you care for at least one of these three parts of your dog—eyes, ears or teeth. Diagrams of the parts are shown. Try to use some new words in your demonstration that describes certain parts. Show under My Dog Care Demonstration what you included in your presentation.



When was the last time you brushed your dog's teeth?

Dog Talk WORDS

- Canine
- Incisors
- Molars
- Periodontal
- Premolars

My Dog Care Demonstration

Title: _____

Introduction: _____

Body: _____

Conclusion: _____

Things you can learn from your dog: *When someone is having a bad day—be silent, sit close and nuzzle him or her gently.*

Tail Waggers

- Contact lenses are being developed for dogs.
- Adult dogs normally have 42 permanent teeth.
- More than 85% of dogs older than four years old have periodontal disease.

PAWS

to Consider

Share What You Did

What did you include in your presentation?

Process What's Important

Why and how often should you brush your dog's teeth?

What causes periodontal disease?

- Why is regular care of the teeth, ears and eyes important?

Generalize to Your Life

What does it mean to you to be responsible for your dog's care?

Apply What You Learned

How can you use what you learned in this activity with your dog?

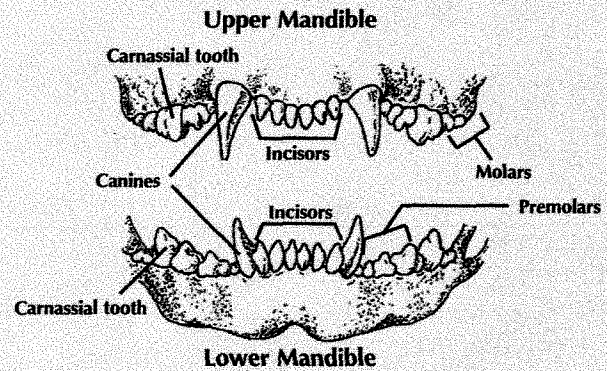
facts and Tips

Dog Teeth Care

A dog's teeth should be cleaned at least twice a week with a soft brush or gauze pad. Dog tooth paste (not human tooth paste) should be used.

Yearly veterinary dentistry exams and cleaning can prevent infections and loss of teeth. If a dog's teeth require veterinary dentistry here are estimated costs:

Cleaning and anesthesia	\$75-\$250
(depending on size and degree of plaque build-up)	
Extraction	\$20-\$100
X-rays	\$80-\$100
Pulp cap	\$120-\$150
Root canal	\$450-\$750
Partial bridge	\$1,500
Crown	\$1,600
Orthodontia	\$1,000-\$1,500



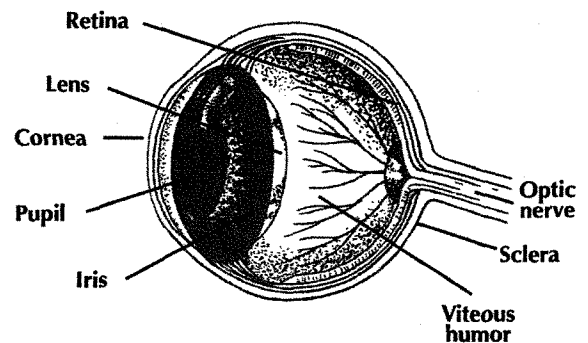
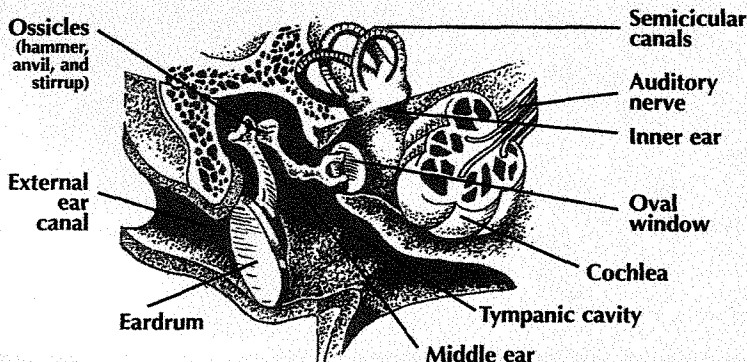
Eye Care

The most common problems with the eye are discharges and inflammation. When a dog paws its eyes because of irritation, accidental damage to the surface of the eye, the cornea, may result. A veterinarian can examine the interior of a dog's eye with an ophthalmoscope. Some eye problems are genetic. The parents pass it on to their puppies. Breeding animals should have a C.E.R.F. exam done by a veterinary ophthalmologist to detect and prevent these painful eye

facts and Tips

Ear Care

If your dog is shaking its head, scratching its ear or the ear smells bad, ear mites might be the cause. Dogs with long, floppy ears with well-furred ear flaps such as spaniels are more likely to suffer from ear disorders than breeds with erect ears.



Digging Deeper

1. Demonstrate how to examine the teeth of a dog. Show your technique to your helper.

L

Leather - The earflap of hounds and spaniels.

M

Mantle - Dark-shaded portion of the coat on shoulder, back and sides as in St. Bernard.

Mask - Dark shading on the head as in Mastiff, Boxer and Pekinese.

N

Neurology - The study of the nervous system and related disorders.

Neutered - To remove the male reproductive organs to prevent unwanted breeding and disease.

Novice class - Same as graduate beginner class except the dog is required to perform the heel exercise off leash.

Nutrient - Substance that can be used as food by the body,

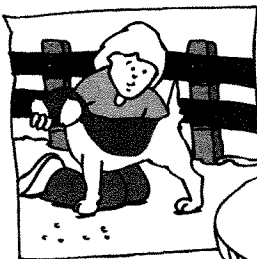
O

Open class - Obedience class in which dogs perform all exercises off lead. Exercises include figure 8, drop on recall, retrieve on flat, retrieve over high jump, broad jump, long sit and long down.

Ophthalmology - The study of the structure, function and diseases of the eye.

Orthopedics - The branch of medicine concerned with corrections of deformities of the skeletal system.

Overpopulation - An excess quantity of an animal species that cannot be supported by the environment in which the species lives.



P

Parasite - Organism deriving nourishment from another living being.

Parasitology - The study of parasites.

Pathology - The study of the origins, natures, causes and development of diseases.

Pedigree - The recorded descent of purebred animal of three generations or more.

Pet responsibility - Human accountability for the care and humane treatment of companion animals. Compliance with local animal control laws so pets are not a hazard or nuisance to the community.

Plume - Full and thick hair on the tail as in Pekinese and Collie.

Point - The immovable stance of the hunting dog taken to indicate the presence and position of game.

Pom-pom - Ball of hair left on the end of the tail of Poodles.

Posture - The bodily poses assumed by certain animal species to communicate with other animals.

R

Radiology - The study of radiant energy and its applications in the treatment of disease.

Retrieve - Hunting or obedience term. The act of bringing shot game or an object back to the handler.



S

Saddle - A black marking over the back, like a saddle.

Screw tail - Kinky, twisted tail as in the Basenji.

Spayed - To remove the female reproductive organs to prevent unwanted breeding and disease.

Standard - Written description of the ideal dog of each recognized breed used to evaluate dogs in conformation judging at breed shows.

Surgery - The branch of medicine that relates to body injuries, deformities and diseased conditions requiring treatment by operative procedures.

T

Team class - Obedience class in which four dogs and handlers work together performing exercises on the graduate beginner course.

Terrier - Group of dog breeds used originally for hunting vermin. Most originated from the United Kingdom.

Toy dog - One of a group of the breed dogs characterized by very small size.

Triangle pattern - The showmanship gaiting pattern where you gait the dog to the right around the two edges of the ring and back toward the judge who stands on the diagonal.

U

Utility class - Obedience class in which dog performs all exercises off lead. Exercises include scent discrimination of a leather and metal article, directed retrieve, signal exercise, directed jumping and group examination.

W

Walleye - Blue eyes as in Blue Merle Collies, Harlequin Danes and Dalmatians. Sometimes called China eye.

Whelp - A young offspring of a dog, wolf or similar animal.

Whelping - To give birth to a whelp or whelps.



Ignorance is NO Excuse!

Speak! (*Share what you did*)

- What did you enjoy most about this activity? Why?
- What laws did you learn about that were new to you?

Chew on This (*Process what's important*)

- Why are dog laws important?
- Why do you need to develop the ability to locate good sources of information?

Catch the Scent (*Generalize to your life*)

- How else do you demonstrate that you are a responsible citizen?
- What laws affect your actions?

Point the Way (*Apply what you learned*)

- How can you teach others about dog control laws?
- What changes in how you manage your dog do you have to make in order to comply with local laws?

Dog-related laws are created to protect people, property and dogs themselves. These laws fall into a few basic categories.

Health. Local, state, federal and international laws require dogs be up-to-date on rabies vaccinations. A health certificate from a veterinarian is needed for travel to most countries and sometimes between states. After international travel, a quarantine period is sometimes required before a dog can re-enter the U.S. Some diseases of dogs are contagious to humans and must be reported to health authorities. Local ordinances ban dogs from certain areas, food-serving establishments, hospitals, etc.

Licensing. Most towns and cities require that all dogs over six months old be registered. Discounts are given for spayed and neutered pets.

Leash laws. Some areas have laws that require dog owners to control their dogs' activities. Dogs found running at large may be picked up and impounded by animal control officers; owners must pay a fee to have the dog returned. If the dog isn't licensed, a fine will be imposed. Dogs found attacking or harassing livestock may be legally killed on the spot by the livestock owner.

Kennels/breeders. Some areas require breeders or kennel owners to pay a business licensing fee.

Quality of life. Irresponsible owners let their dogs bark constantly or defecate anywhere. Laws in some areas address these issues. Negligent owners may receive warnings or a fine.

Bites. If a dog bites a human, legal charges could be brought against the dog's owner. If it happens again, the owner may face severe penalties and the dog could be euthanized.



Dog Law: A plain-English legal guide for dog owners & their neighbors. Mary Randolph, 2001, Nolo Press, Berkeley, CA. ISBN: 0-87337-616-1



www.n4hcc.org/dog

Laws

Howl about this?

- In many areas, the most common predator of livestock is dogs.
- Laws keeping dogs out of playgrounds were developed to help protect children from certain parasites spread through dogs' feces.

Begging for More

1. Investigate what your community does with the fines collected from dog law violations.
2. Visit a town or city council meeting where your local laws are made. List the steps involved in the process of getting a new law passed. Share what you discovered with your group.

Going to the Dogs!

As you've learned more about the world and the people in it, you've probably thought about what you would like to do for a living. To find anything from an enjoyable part-time job to a professional career requires careful thought and planning. Almost any career is possible if you work hard to achieve your goals! This activity will help you plan your future as you explore careers that revolve around your interest in dogs.

Dog Project Skill: Exploring careers with dogs

Life Skill: Acquiring and evaluating information

National Educational Standard:
NL-ENG.K-12.4:
Communication skills

Success Indicator:
Describes dog-related careers and how to prepare for them.

Jump In!

Investigate the dog-related careers in the chart below and record the main duties of each position. *Shadow* or interview people in at least three different careers to learn more about what they do. Record your interview notes below, or attach a sheet of paper to this page if you need more room.



If you really enjoy working with dogs, consider a career with them!

Dog-Related Careers

Job or career	Main duties and responsibilities
Dog groomer	
Veterinary technician	
Assistance dog trainer	
Dog boarder	
Animal control officer	
Veterinarian	
Animal photographer/videographer	
Artist	
Researcher	
Nutritionist	
Animal shelter manager or worker	
Dog breeder	
Pet store owner, manager or worker	
Dog trainer	
Veterinary assistant	
Show dog handler	
Kennel owner/manager	
Animal welfare investigator	
Animal issue lawyer	
Animal paramedic	
Nutritionist	
Educator	
Animal handler	
Dog sitter	
Dog walker	
Dog show judge	
Pet therapy counselor	
Canine law enforcement officer	
Other:	

Notes From My Interviews

Career #1	
Career #2	
Career #3	



perception of blues, greens and reds. Blues and greens appear white, while reds appear yellow. Overall, dogs can still distinguish many colors, but perceive them differently and in a more limited way than humans do.

PHYSICAL ALTERATION

Clipped ears have become part of the standard for some breeds, including Doberman Pinschers. Although some functional purpose for this alteration (such as protecting the ears in low brush) may have existed in the past, ear clipping is generally done today for cosmetic reasons or to suit a breed standard. For dogs not involved in show competitions, it is perfectly acceptable for the ears to remain in their natural state.

In the past, tail docking protected a dog's tail from injury, especially when a dog worked in the fields. While tail docking is less common today, it is sometimes done on large, powerful dogs whose thick, strong tails can inadvertently injure people's legs and damage family furniture. In such cases, the tails are clipped within the first week after birth.

Health Facts

The normal temperature of a dog is 101 to 102.5 degrees Fahrenheit. Because dogs come in a wide range of sizes, their heartbeats vary. A normal heart beats from 50 to 130 times a minute in a resting dog. Puppies & small dogs have faster pulse rates and large dogs have a slower pulse.

Healthy gums are firm, and pink, black or spotted, just like a dog's skin. Puppies have 23 baby teeth and no molars. Adult dogs have 42 permanent teeth, depending on the breed. A dog's nose is usually cool and moist. It can be black, pink, or self-colored (the same color as the coat), depending on the breed.

Gestation of a dog is 63 days in which a dog is pregnant with puppies

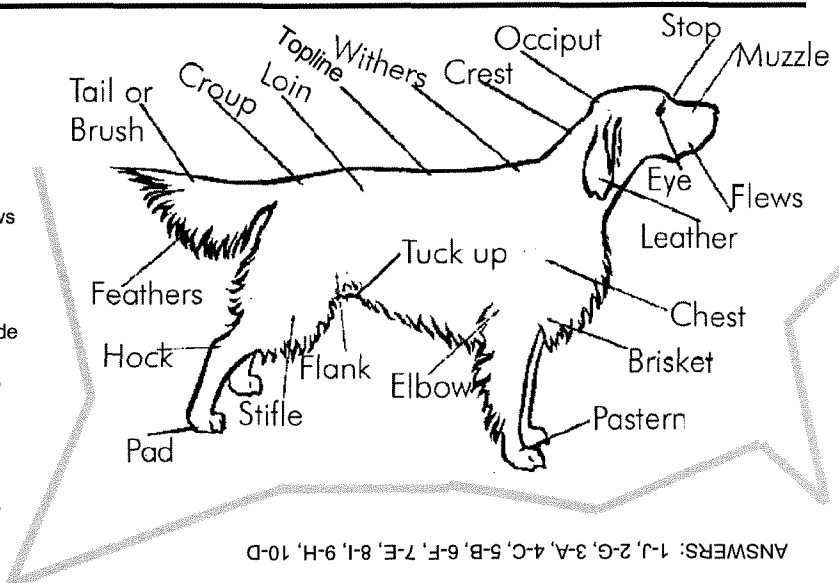
Definitions

- Apron Longer hair below the neck on the chest
- Balance When all the parts of the dog moving or standing still produce a harmonious image
- Bay prolonged bark or voice of the hunting hound
- Beard thick long hair on the underjaw
- Belton a color pattern in English Setters made of ticking or roaning
- Bitch female dog
- Bite the position of the upper & lower teeth when the mouth is closed. Positions include scissors, level, undershot or overshot
- Brace two of the same breed presented together as a pair
- Brush bushy tail, heavy with hair
- Canid the family (Canidea) of carnivores, including dogs, wolves, coyotes, foxes & jackals
- Condition health as shown by the coat, skin, general appearance & behavior
- Conformation . the form & structure, make & shape, arrangement of the parts in conformance with a dog breed standard
- Cropping the cutting of ear leather to cause the ear to stand erect
- Dam Female parent
- Dewclaw extra claw on the inside of a leg, a vestigial fifth toe removed on most breeds
- Dock to shorten a tail by cutting
- Dog male dog
- Dog Show competitive exhibition for dogs
- Double coat ... outer coat resistant to weather with an undercoat of softer hair for warmth & waterproofing
- Expression the general appearance of all the features of the head
- Fall hair overhanging the face
- Feathering fringe of hair on ears, legs, tail or body
- Flag long tail carried high
- Gait pattern of footsteps at various speeds, with a particular rhythm & footfall
- Genealogy recorded family descent of an animal
- Groom to brush, comb, trim or otherwise make a dog's coat & appearance neat
- Hackles hairs on neck & back that rise in fright or anger
- Hallmark A trait of the dog that identifies his breed, for example, the spectacles of the Keeshond, the hackney-like action of the Miniature Pinscher
- Haw a third eyelid or membrane on the inside corner of the eye
- Muzzle the head in front of the eyes - foreface, nose & jaws
- Neuter surgical removal of a dog's testicles to prevent reproduction
- Pads shock absorbing cushions on the underside of the feet
- Pedigree written record of a dog's parentage
- Point the immovable stance of a hunting dog to indicate the presence & position of game
- Purebred a dog whose sire & dam belong to the same breed, and are of unmixed descent since recognition of the breed
- Ruff thick, longer hair growing around the neck
- Sire Male parent
- Spay surgical removal of a bitch's ovaries & uterus to prevent reproduction
- Standard description of the ideal dog of each recognized breed, to serve as a word pattern by which dogs are judged
- Temperament . a dog's personality; the most important trait of all canines
- Topline the outline of the back from just behind the withers to the tail
- Webbed toes . toes connected by a skin membrane

Name that Part

Match the word to the definitions. Answers below!

- | | | |
|------------------|--------|--|
| A Breed Standard | ___ 1 | Pendulous upper lips |
| B Brisket | ___ 2 | Amputate the tail |
| C Pastern | ___ 3 | Description of breeds against which dogs are judged at shows |
| D Occiput | ___ 4 | Slender section of lower leg, between wrist & toes |
| E Croup | ___ 5 | The part of the body below the chest & between the forelegs |
| F Dewclaw | ___ 6 | The 5th digit (thumb) on the inside of the leg |
| G Dock | ___ 7 | Part of the back above the hips, extending to the root of the tail |
| H Feathering | ___ 8 | Sides of the body between the last rib & the hip |
| I Flank | ___ 9 | Long fringe of hair on the ears, legs, tail or body |
| J Flews | ___ 10 | The highest, upperback point of skull |



ANSWERS: 1-J, 2-G, 3-A, 4-C, 5-B, 6-F, 7-E, 8-I, 9-H, 10-D

tips

Know What's Normal

Know What

What's Normal

Normal Heart and Pulse Rates

Heart rates outside these ranges could signal an emergency:

- Puppy (less than 1 year old): 120–160 beats per minute
- Small, miniature or toy breed (30 pounds or less): 100–140 beats per minute
- Medium to large breed (greater than 30 pounds): 60–100 beats per minute

Normal Breathing Rates

- 10–30 breaths per minute
- Up to 200 pants per minute (breathing with its mouth open and tongue out)

Normal Temperatures for Dogs

- A temperature of 100°–102.5° F is normal.
- A temperature lower than 100° F or greater than 104° F is an emergency; call your veterinarian at once.



Just Below the Ankle (Hock).

1. Have your dog sit or lie down.
2. Locate the area just below the ankle on the top side of either hind paw.
3. Lightly place your middle and index fingers at this point.

Breathing Rate

1. Have your pet either stand or lie down.
2. Watch your pet and count the number of times that the chest rises and falls in 1 minute.

In an emergency, if you are not sure if your pet is breathing, try one of these techniques:

- Hold a cotton ball or tissue just in front of the nostrils and see if it moves
- Hold a mirror up to your pet's nose and look for condensation

Respiratory Pattern

inhales normally, the abdomen expands. If the abdomen expands instead of the chest, this indicates a problem. Breathing should be an easy process. If your pet is breathing shallowly or gasping, or is not breathing at all, this is an emergency; see (

How to Take Your Pet's Temperature

1. See Restraint Techniques page 31.
2. Use a pediatric digital thermometer, found in any pharmacy.
3. Lubricate the tip of the thermometer with a water-based lubricant such as petroleum jelly.
4. Insert the tip of the thermometer into the rectum (the tail).
5. Leave the thermometer in place until it beeps.
6. Remove and read the temperature.



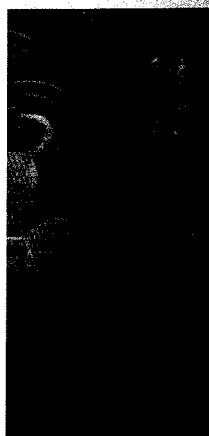
ation

Spaying and Neutering

well trained dog is, never leave a dog with him or allow your dog.

adult dog, take a professional dog trainer or veterinarian for help. Ask the trainer to correct the dog's behavior around people.

ash dog parks. A dog is friendly and calm when he is on a leash. Parks encourage good behavior and are appropriate for dogs. Most dog owners are aggressive dogs.



to Crate

or plastic portable doghouse to contain your dog. The purpose of using this device—usually known as crating—is to prevent your dog from soiling her home. Crating a puppy makes

housebreaking easier. If you plan to crate train your puppy, make sure the crate is not so large that the puppy can relieve herself at one end and sleep at the other. If you buy a crate sized for an adult dog, block off part of it until your puppy grows into it.

Use the crate judiciously. Make sure it is large enough for your dog to lie down, stand up and turn around in comfortably. Also, make sure your dog gets ample family play time and affection when outside of her crate and do not force her to spend an excessive amount of time isolated away from your family. If your dog sleeps in her crate, put the crate in your bedroom when you turn in for the night. A dog that feels safe and comfortable in a crate will be easier to transport in a car or on an aircraft or to evacuate in a disaster.

Spaying and Neutering

Pet overpopulation is like a disease—it kills millions of dogs each year. But there is a cure: spaying (for females) or neutering (for males). This cure also has health and behavioral benefits for your pet. The American Veterinary Medical Association and others agree it is safe to spay or neuter most puppies as early as 8 weeks of age.

When performed early, spaying can prevent breast cancer (mammary tumors). Spaying at any age eliminates the risk of uterine infections, uterine or ovarian cancer and some skin disorders. Neutering can pre-

vent testicular disease and greatly lessen the risk of prostate disease.

Pets who are spayed or neutered are generally better, more affectionate companions, and neither you nor your pet needs to suffer through the physical and behavioral problems associated with heat cycles. Spayed or neutered pets are less likely to roam, spray or mark territory or be aggressive. In many studies of serious dog bites, evidence shows that bites are more often inflicted by unneutered dogs.

NOTE:

- **It is not better for your female pet's health to delay spaying until after her first heat or to let her have a litter before spaying.**
- **Neutering will not affect a dog's instinct to protect his human family.**
- **Spayed or neutered pets do not automatically become fat and lazy.**

ID—Your Lost Pet's Ticket Home

Even though your pet should live indoors and remain under your supervision when outside, pets should wear collars and up-to-date identification at all times.

If your pet becomes lost, a tag with your name, address and phone number can help reunite you and your pet. But regardless of the type of ID on your pet, search for your lost pet immediately. Contact local

- Take a generous supply of drinking water for your dog, and teach him to drink out of a sports bottle to prevent spills.
- Provide a shady retreat where your dog can escape the sun.
- Make sure your dog has a well-fitted, brightly colored canine personal flotation device (available in marine-supply stores), and take him out for a trial swim with it ahead of time to make sure it provides enough buoyancy. Most have handles that will help you lift your dog out of the water. Make sure the attachment straps are comfortable and will not cut into his skin.
- If you have a large boat, teach your dog to relieve himself in a specific spot that is easy for you



to clean. Otherwise, take him back to land for regular pit stops, and be sure to clean up his waste when you do.

- Try a short trip first, and if your dog is prone to seasickness or acts distressed while aboard your boat, make other arrangements for your pet while you enjoy boating.

NOTE: Not all dogs can swim. Moreover, very lean and well-muscled dogs are not buoyant and will tire quickly while swimming.

What to Pack for Your Pet

Here are some essentials to take when you travel with your pet or if you must evacuate with your pet in a disaster:

- Medications and medical records
- Food and bowls
- First aid kit
- Bedding
- Leash, collar and tags
- Grooming supplies
- Current pet photo that includes you (in case your pet gets lost)
- A favorite toy or two
- A sturdy, well-ventilated carrier

For more information on what to pack in case of a disaster, see *Be Prepared for Disaster*, page 19.

If you choose to leave your pet behind while you go on vacation,

be sure whoever pet has your v ber, complete instructions ar your veterinari

Veterinary Emergency Numbers

You should know the veterinarian's emergency numbers and where the closest 24-hour emergency animal hospital is so you won't get lost trying to get there when time is critical.

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is used to treat an animal that is not breathing and has no heartbeat or pulse. It consists of rescue breathing (also called mouth-to-nose or mouth-to-mouth resuscitation) and chest compressions. CPR is based on three basic principles, called the ABCs of CPR. Follow the A-B-C order (Airway, Breathing and Circulation) when attempting CPR. See the Dog CPR Chart, page 40, for information on breathing and compression rates.

NOTE: Do not assume there is no heartbeat or pulse simply because an animal is not breathing. Do not start chest compressions before checking for a heartbeat. (If the animal is conscious and responds to you, then the heart is beating.)

Airway

The airway is the breathing passage. To open the airway and check the throat and mouth for foreign objects, take the following steps:

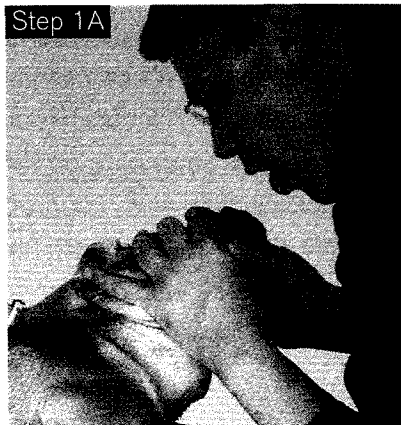
1. Lay the animal down, on either side.
2. Gently tilt the head slightly back to extend the neck and head.
3. Pull the tongue between the front teeth.
4. If the dog is unconscious, use your finger to check for and remove any foreign material or vomit from the mouth.

IMPORTANT: Do not place your fingers inside the mouth of a conscious animal—you may be bitten!

Breathing

After opening the airway, check to see if the dog is breathing. If not—

1. For small dogs (less than 30 pounds) and puppies, cover and seal the dog's entire snout with your mouth and exhale until you see the chest rise. **(Step 1A)**
For medium, large and giant dogs (30 pounds or more), gently hold the muzzle closed. Place



- your mouth over the and gently exhale until the chest rise. **(Step 2)**
2. Give 4 or 5 breaths then check to see if breathing without as he begins to breathe breathing is shallow lar or if breathing do begin, continue giving cue breaths until you veterinary hospital o 20 minutes. Beyond utes there is little ch reviving your pet. (S Breathing Rate on th CPR Chart, page 40

NOTE: Do not attempt a conscious animal!

Circulation

Is there a heartbeat or a p perform chest compressions Heart Rate and Pulse, Co

with age and malnourishment. It is also more difficult to assess dehydration in obese animals. In these circumstances, feel the gums; if they feel dry and sticky, your dog is probably dehydrated.

NOTE: If she is drooling, gums may feel moist even though she's actually dehydrated.

The Most Common Causes.

Excessive heat exposure and illness—not eating or drinking, vomiting, diarrhea, fever

What You Can Do. A dehydrated dog must be taken to a veterinary hospital for treatment to determine why and how severely she is dehydrated. If she is vomiting or not eating/drinking, she will most likely need fluids either under the skin (subcutaneously) or intravenously. If you aren't sure whether your pet is dehydrated, the safest option is to take your pet to the veterinarian for an examination. You might also try to give your dog an electrolyte-replacement drink like Pedialyte®, but only if she's not vomiting.

Dental Disease, Tooth Damage and Mouth Sores

Dogs rarely complain when they have tooth damage or dental disease, but we dog owners sure know how to complain when their breath smells anything but rosy. Although not life threatening, paying attention to the signs of dental

disease and treating your dog's mouth problems now could prevent him from having bigger issues down the line, because infections starting in the mouth could travel through the bloodstream and cause damage to organs.

Signs and Symptoms.

- Bad breath
- Cracked or broken tooth
- Drooling or difficulty chewing
- Plaque buildup that looks brown or yellow in color
- Recessed, reddened gums or sores in the mouth
- Wanting to eat but then refusing to

The Most Common Causes.

Accidents, injury, lack of regular dental care

What You Can Do. Brush your dog's teeth regularly. Your vet can show you how and give you tooth-paste to use. Many dogs get very used to this and even enjoy it. Have your dog's teeth checked during his regular checkups to determine if they need to be cleaned with an ultrasonic cleaner (similar to the one your dentist uses).

Diarrhea

Considering what dogs can ingest on a daily basis, it's a small miracle that diarrhea—an increase in the amount, fluidity or frequency of bowel movements—isn't more common than it tends to be. However, if it lasts for more than 24 hours, call your veterinarian.

- Collapse on the floor near an electrical cord
- Difficulty breathing and coughing due to a buildup of fluid in the lungs
- Drooling
- Foul odor from the mouth
- Ulcers inside the mouth affecting the tongue, roof, cheek and gums
- Possibly part of the tongue missing
- Loss of appetite
- Shock (See Shock, page 102.)

What You Can Do.

1. Turn off the power, and unplug the cord. If you cannot turn off the power at the source, turn off the power to the house.
2. Check the dog's ABCs; perform CPR as needed. (See CPR, page 36.)
3. Check for shock. (See Shock, page 102.)
4. Take your dog to a veterinary hospital immediately.

IMPORTANT: Do not attempt to free your dog from the cord if the power is on and the cord is still plugged in.

Prevention. None of these techniques are foolproof, but they may help:

- Use plastic sleeves or cord covers to prevent access to electric cords. These are available at hardware or computer stores.
- Place cords in inaccessible locations whenever possible.

- Unplug all electrical cords when not in use.
- Provide appropriate toys for chewing puppies.
- If you see your pet showing interest in a cord, rub the cord with a hot pepper sauce or other deterrents such as Bitter Apple® (available at pet supply stores).



Eye Emergencies

If your dog's eyes are red, she should be examined by a veterinarian to make sure no sight-threatening conditions exist.

Acute Blindness

Acute blindness is most often detected when the dog starts bumping into things, is reluctant to go up or down stairs or is walking gingerly in the surrounding environment.

Signs and Symptoms.

- Bumping into furniture and walls
- Decreased appetite
- Dilated pupils (will look all black) that do not constrict with light
- Other neurological signs like seizures and abnormal behavior
- Reluctance to go up or down stairs or not wanting to walk around

The Most Common Causes.

- Primary eye problems:
- Chronic disease that appears more acute (i.e., progressive retinal atrophy)
- Detached retinas, glaucoma, severe corneal ulcers or tumors

- Infection or inflammation inside of the eye
- Primary neurological problems:
- Primary brain disease (infection, inflammation, tumor)
- Other problems:
- Low blood sugar

What You Can Do. Any dog with decreased or absent vision should be taken to a veterinarian as soon as possible. In many cases, the primary cause needs to be found and treated to try to preserve vision. Always pay attention to how your pet is acting and if there is a difference in behavior when exposed to dim light vs. bright light.

Cherry Eye—Prolapse of the Third Eyelid Gland

The third eyelid normally sits underneath the lower lid on the side of the eye near the nose. Cherry eye is a swelling and protrusion of the tissue underneath the third eyelid. This condition is more common in young dogs. It is not a true sight emergency but must be distinguished from other eye emergencies.

Signs and Symptoms. The third eyelid comes up and is visible all the time, or it is red and swollen.

The Most Common Causes.

Breed predisposition, such as cocker spaniels, and eye infection

What You Can Do. Often this condition will have to be surgically repaired by a veterinarian.

Conjunctivitis
Conjunctivitis is a swelling of the pink tissue lining the inside of the eyelids (conjunctiva). The conjunctiva can be seen by pulling down the lower eyelid and pulling up the upper eyelid.

Signs and Symptoms. The eye has a watery, mucus or pus discharge, and it appears painful, itchy, red and/or swollen.

The Most Common Causes.

- Allergies, chemical irritation or a foreign object in the eye
- Defects in the eyelids (predisposed in some breeds)
- Infection (bacterial, viral or fungal)—especially common in young animals and can be contagious to other dogs or cats
- Lack of tear production

What You Can Do. Have your dog examined by a veterinarian as soon as possible.

Eye Out of Socket (Proptosis)

Signs and Symptoms. One or both eyes bulging out of their sockets or other signs of trauma or pain



The Most Common Causes.

These injuries are most often caused by trauma (i.e., hit by car, bite wounds). They can, however, be caused by overly aggressive holding of the neck or pulling of collars, particularly in dogs with small snouts and big eyes, like the Pekingese.

What You Can Do.

1. Administer sterile eye wash or sterile petroleum-based eye ointment (artificial tear preparation; available in pharmacies) to help keep the eye from drying out while transporting your dog to a veterinary hospital.

2. **Transport your dog as soon as possible to a veterinary hospital.** There may be significant head trauma that occurred with the proptosis. A veterinarian will decide whether it is feasible to try to put the eye back versus removing it. If the eye is put back, it is to try to save the eye—not the vision.

3. Do not place a leash around your dog's neck. Carry your pet, if you are able. Or you can place the leash under one front leg.
4. Keep your dog from pawing or scratching at the eye.

Foreign Objects in the Eye

Foreign objects are most commonly found on the cornea (the outer layer of the eye) or the conjunctiva.

Signs and Symptoms.

- Obvious foreign object
- Pawing at an eye

- Red or runny eyes, squinting or swelling

The Most Common Causes.

The most common foreign objects in the eye are pieces of plant material, but there are many other objects that can get lodged in the eye. Normally, objects enter the eye either from flying debris or from brushing against a plant.

Flying debris can injure dogs that hang their heads out of car windows. Keep your dog safely inside any moving vehicle. Never transport pets in the back of open pickup trucks unless your dog is confined in a sturdy, well-ventilated carrier that is secured to the truck.

What You Can Do.

1. Gently wash the eye with large amounts of either tap water or sterile saline eye wash. (See Administering Eye Medications, page 12.) Sterile saline eye wash is preferable; it is available at any pharmacy and should be a part of your first aid kit. (See Pet First Aid Kit, page 18.)
2. Inspect the eye with a good light source to ensure the entire foreign object is gone.
3. Even if you are able to remove the foreign object, you should contact your veterinarian. Many foreign objects can cause a corneal ulcer or lead to infections.

Your veterinarian may prescribe topical antibiotics. If you are unable to remove the object with a stream of liquid, if it appears to be perforating the eyeball or if the eye looks very irritated, take your pet to a veterinary hospital immediately.

Glaucoma

Glaucoma is increased pressure inside the eye caused by a build-up of fluid.

Signs and Symptoms.

- An apparent change in vision
- Cornea may be cloudy
- Eye appears enlarged or pupil may be dilated
- Dog lacks appetite, is lethargic, whines or cries (acute glaucoma may be very painful)
- Pupils unequal in size
- Red or runny eyes
- Dog sensitive to light or squints

The Most Common Causes.

- Breed predisposition (cocker spaniels, basset hounds, samoyeds)
- Displaced eye lens
- Infection or inflammation inside of the eye

The diagnosis of glaucoma must be made by a veterinarian. It involves measuring the pressure inside the eye with an instrument called a tonometer.

What You Can Do. Acute glaucoma is a medical emergency; take your dog to a veterinary hospital immediately. Your pet will probably have to stay in the hospital to receive topical and intravenous medications to reduce the pressure in the eye in order to save the dog's vision. Many animals may eventually require surgery to correct glaucoma.

Ulcers, Corneal

Corneal ulcers are defects on the outer layer of the eye. Dogs with pushed in noses and bulging eyes are very susceptible to getting a corneal ulcer. Breeds like pugs, Boston terriers, Lhasa apsos, Pekingese and Shiz Tsus are some of the most susceptible.

Signs and Symptoms.

- Cloudiness over the eye
- Discharge (watery, mucus or pus)
- May see the defect in the cornea
- Pain, redness, sensitivity to light or squinting

The Most Common Causes.

- Decreased tear production
- Eyelashes that grow inward
- Foreign object
- Infection (bacterial, viral or fungal)
- Masses (tumors) on the eyelids
- Scratch, usually from another animal

What You Can Do. Corneal ulcers are extremely serious. If left untreated, they can affect vision, rupture and cause the loss of the eye. Here is what to do:

NOTE: Your dog can have an allergic reaction to mites. (See Allergies and Allergic Reactions, page 42, and Ear Problems, page 69.)

Tapeworms

Tapeworms are commonly spread when an animal bites an itch or eats fleas that harbor tapeworm larvae.

Signs and Symptoms.

- Round or flat small white worms that look like moving pieces of rice, which are segments of the tapeworm body, will be seen around the anus or in the stool.
- For other signs, see Intestinal Worms, page 92.

What You Can Do. Practice flea control, and have your dog dewormed with medication administered by a veterinarian. Clean your animal's bedding thoroughly after starting treatment for tapeworms.

Ticks and Tick-Borne Diseases

Ticks are blood-sucking parasites responsible for the transmission of several diseases to dogs, cats and humans. They commonly jump on animals as the animals walk through tall grass or brush against leaves, bushes and trees. To get the most accurate information for your area, ask your veterinarian about diseases transmitted by ticks.

Signs and Symptoms of Tick Infestation.

- A tick may appear as a tiny dark-colored insect or a fat, skin-colored bump; it is engorged with the dog's blood and has its head burrowed into the dog's skin.
- Ticks may be present anywhere on the body, but they are commonly found on the ears (or just inside them) and on the feet or legs.
- The area around the tick may be red and swollen.

The Most Common Causes of Tick-Borne Diseases. Tick-borne diseases (i.e., ehrlichia, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, babesiosis, Lyme disease) can cause a variety of illnesses, some of which can be life threatening. These diseases can lead to paralysis, anemia, low platelet count, joint pain and swelling, and fever.

What You Can Do.

- If you live in an area that has ticks, or after visiting such an area, check your pet thoroughly. Run your fingers through your pet's entire hair coat; check the paws by lifting each up and inspecting the pads; look between the toes and inside the floppy part of the ear.
- If you find a tick—
 1. Put on powder-free, nonlatex gloves.
 2. Place a small amount of tick spray (available in pet stores or at your veterinary

Shock

- Scar tissue in the brain (may occur after a head injury)
 - Tumor
- Non-central nervous system causes include the following:
- Glandular disease causing blood sugar to be too low or too high (as may occur in diabetics)
 - Low blood calcium
 - Organ failure, particularly of the liver and kidney, which are the waste treatment plants of the body (When they malfunction, a large build-up of toxic waste products can occur, causing seizures.)
 - Poisoning—such as from certain drugs, plants, lead, heavy metals, antifreeze and chocolate

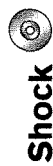
The seizure's cause must be identified to determine if the collapse was due to *primary respiratory*, heart, orthopedic or neurological problems.

What You Can Do.

1. Make sure your dog is in a safe place (not on top of a staircase or anywhere from which a fall is possible).
2. Record how long the active phase of the seizure lasts.
3. Keep a log of your dog's seizures. Include the date, time of day, time after a meal and how long the active seizure phase lasts.
4. Keep your hands away from the animal's mouth. Do not attempt to hold your dog's tongue (the

- animal will not swallow her tongue). Your dog may not know who you are during a seizure. Many pet owners are bitten while attempting to handle their pets during a seizure.
5. Do not disturb your dog during and after an active seizure.
 6. If this is your pet's first seizure, call your veterinarian. Your dog should be examined as soon as possible.
 7. Seizures lasting longer than 2 minutes or cluster seizures (seizures repeated one after the other) are medical emergencies; these animals are at risk for very high fevers and brain damage. A veterinarian must examine an animal having cluster seizures immediately.

NOTE: If your dog is placed on anti-seizure medication, understand that the medication does not cure the cause of the seizure; it simply helps to reduce the number or severity of episodes. Your dog will probably have future episodes and require frequent veterinary checkups.



Shock

See also Respond to a Breathing or Heart Emergency, page 35.

Shock is a body's response to a change in blood flow and oxygen to the internal organs and tissues. This can result from a sudden loss of

Shock

blood, a traumatic injury, heart failure, severe allergic reaction (anaphylactic shock), organ disease or an infection circulating through the body (septic shock). There are three stages of shock, which may look very different.

Early Shock

The body attempts to compensate for the decreased flow of fluids and oxygen to the tissues.

Signs and Symptoms.

- Body temperature that may be low or elevated
- Capillary refill time of 1–2 seconds (See Capillary Refill Time, page 28.)
- Increased heart rate (See Heart Rate and Pulse, page 24.)
- Mucous membranes that are redder than normal (common with septic shock)
- Normal to increased intensity of pulses (may feel like they are pounding)

Middle Stages of Shock

The body begins to have difficulty compensating for the lack of blood flow and oxygen.

Signs and Symptoms.

- Cool limbs
- Depressed mental state
- Hypothermia (low body temperature of less than 98° F (Hairless areas may feel cool to the touch.) (See Know What's Normal, page 24.)
- Increased heart rate (See Heart Rate and Pulse, page 24.)

- Pale mucous membranes
- Prolonged capillary refill time (See Capillary Refill Time, page 28.)
- Weak pulse

End Stage or Terminal Shock

This occurs when the body can no longer compensate for the lack of oxygen and blood flow to its vital organs.

Signs and Symptoms.

- Depressed mental state or unconsciousness
- Prolonged capillary refill time (See Capillary Refill Time, page 28.)
- Slow respiratory rate (See Heart Rate and Pulse, page 24.)
- Slow heart rate (See Heart Rate and Pulse, page 24.)
- Weak or absent pulse

IMPORTANT: Cardiopulmonary arrest may soon follow! Prepare to perform CPR. A dog that is in shock, or that you suspect may be in shock, should be taken to a veterinary hospital immediately.

What You Can Do.

1. Assess the dog's ABCs; perform CPR as needed. (See CPR, page 36.)
2. Control bleeding if present. (See Bleeding, page 48.)
3. Warm the animal with a thermal blanket. (See Pet First Aid Kit, page 18.) Wrap the blanket around the animal's body.

The Most Common Cause.

Bacterial infection, which causes a buildup of pus in the uterus

What You Can Do. Take your dog to a veterinary hospital immediately. This condition is an emergency and must be dealt with at once, or the uterus may rupture.

Prevention. Spay female dogs to reduce the risk of infection.

Venomous Bites and Stings—Snakes, Scorpions, Toads and Jellyfish

Snakebites

Poisonous snakes in the United States include—

- **Pit vipers**—These include rattlesnakes, copperheads and cottonmouths. Pit vipers have a depression between their nose and eyes. Their fangs can retract and their heads are triangular in shape.
 - **Rattlesnakes** can be up to 8 feet in length; tails contain a rattle.
 - **Copperheads** are about 4 feet long and have no rattles. The top of the head is a rich, coppery orange color.
 - **Cottonmouths**, also known as water moccasins, can grow to 4 feet in length. The body is dark, and the inside of the mouth is snowy white.

- **Coral snakes**—These snakes have fangs that are in the rear of the mouth and are not retractable. They can be up to 3 feet long. They are red, yellow and black in alternating bands.

Signs and Symptoms.

- Bleeding puncture wound
- Blood does not clot
- Breathing stops
- Bruising or sloughing of the skin over the bitten area
- Fang marks may or may not be visible, due to dog hair
- Neurological signs such as twitching and drooling
- Pain
- Reddening
- Signs of shock
- Swelling of the bitten area; can be severe and progress for more than a day

What You Can Do.

1. If you suspect a poisonous snakebite, attempt to identify the snake, but don't get too close. If you have to kill the snake to protect yourself or your pet, take it with you for identification. **Be aware that the fangs on a decapitated snake's head may be venomous for up to 1½ hours.**
2. Check the dog's ABCs; perform CPR as needed. (See CPR, page 36.)
3. Check for signs of shock. (See Shock, page 102.)
4. Attempt to keep the animal calm and still.