

RESPECT



January, 2003

A lesson in “respect” for Character Education

Humane Society of Broward County

2070 Griffin Road

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312

DOGS THAT HELP PEOPLE

Dogs have been our companions and our loyal friends for thousands of years. In addition to being our friends, dogs have also provided numerous services to help human beings in many ways. They have earned our hearts and our **respect** as a result. This lesson will help students to understand the value, intelligence and importance of dogs and how they help our community.

ACTIVITY:

Divide the classroom into small teams of five or six students. Assign each team a “SERVICE DOG” group from below. The team’s job will be to research their assigned “Service Dog” group and give a creative fifteen minute oral presentation to the classroom. There are hundreds of websites offering a variety of information on each of dog groups listed.

Presentations should be scored according to creativity, visual aid materials, unique stories/ news articles and the like.

Questions each report should include:

What service does your dog group provide?

How and when did this type of service dog evolve?

How is the dog trained to provide this service?

How much training is involved?

Questions each report should include, continued:

Is there a certain type of dog that is trained to perform this function?

Each group should include two of the following: Stories, data, video clips, articles or other supportive material in relationship to their service dog.

Choose one of the following “SERVICE DOG” groups per team:

SEARCH & RESCUE DOGS:

Search and Rescue dogs aid in finding people in disasters such as earthquakes, floods, hurricanes and bomb explosions. Search and Rescue dogs are trained to pick up scents in the air and on the ground to find missing people. Dozens of search and rescue teams (dog and human) worked tirelessly at the World Trade Center and Pentagon sites after the attack on September 11th.

WAR DOGS:

Since Egyptian and Roman times, dogs have served in wars. Their instincts – keen senses, the desire to protect their “pack” and the ability to fight --- have served us well on battlefields. Military dogs perform many jobs in war. They are sentries on guard duty, alerting their handlers to strangers or attacking on command.

POLICE DOGS:

Police officers get their dogs as puppies and raise them as part of their families. The canine cop, after months of training becomes an official patrol dog. Police dogs are taught to growl and attack on command. They learn to catch and hold a fleeing suspect. Police dogs are also taught to track the smell of humans in the air, on the ground and even off the water.

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND, DEAF & DISABLED: (You can divide this team into three separate teams if you'd like)

In 1928, a German shepherd named Buddy became the first Seeing Eye dog. People discovered that dogs could provide services to people who are blind, deaf or disabled. These dogs perform an enormous range of tasks and require extensive training.

PET THERAPY DOGS:

The Humane Society of Broward County has an extensive Pet Facilitated Therapy program. Our pet therapy dogs and owners visit over 80 different facilities in Broward County to include; hospitals, nursing homes, psychiatric wards, children’s facilities and more. The goal of the program is to bring smiles and love to people in need. A therapy dog must be a well-mannered, calm and friendly dog. A series of tests is performed to certify a dog.

SEIZURE DOGS:

Very special dogs with no particular training have been able to predict when their owners are about to seizure. These incredible dogs have saved many lives as a result. Recently, other dogs have been able to detect cancer in certain individuals. More research is yet to be done.

*Call the Humane Society of Broward County to have a Pet Therapy Dog, Search and Rescue Dog or a Guide Dog visit your classroom.
Presentations are booked 3 to 4 weeks ahead of time.
Call Mara Rossi at (954) 266-6848 to book your presentation today!*