



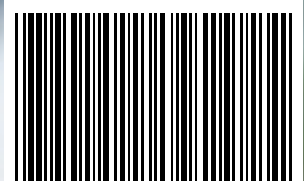
Te Kura

TE AHO O TE KURA POUNAMU
THE CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL

Dogs

2013/1

IRO201



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Dogs

Introduction

Where do dogs come from?



Dogs and wolves are related.
They are part of the same family.

Long ago people took wolf cubs
and looked after them, making
the cub their pet.

People tamed the cubs so that
they could safely be part of
the family.





People trained the cubs to help find food.

People trained the cubs to protect their families from other wild animals and people.



Chapter 1

What do dogs look like?

Some dogs are big.

Some dogs are small.

Some dogs are brown.

Some dogs are black.



Some dogs are spotted.

Some dogs are lots
of colours.





Some dogs have long fur.

Some dogs have short fur.

Some dogs have curly fur.

Some dogs have hair
on the top of their head
and feet but no hair
on their body.

Some dogs have no hair
at all.



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There are many different breeds (types) of dogs.
Here are some.

What others do you know?



English Springer
Spaniel



Labrador



Beagle



German Shepherd



Dalmation



Husky



Rottweiler



Pitbull terrier

Some dogs are not just one breed.

A dog can have a mother of one breed and a father of another breed.

Some dogs are a mixture of lots of breeds.

Dogs like this can be as good looking, as clever and as hard working as dogs of just one breed. They make good pets too.

Some mixed breeds:

- Labradoodle (Labrador / Poodle)
- Doxie (Dachshund / Scottish Terrier)
- Husky / Rottweiler
- Huntaway / Collie
- Labrador / Retriever



Doxie



Huntaway / Collie



Labrador / Retriever

Chapter 2

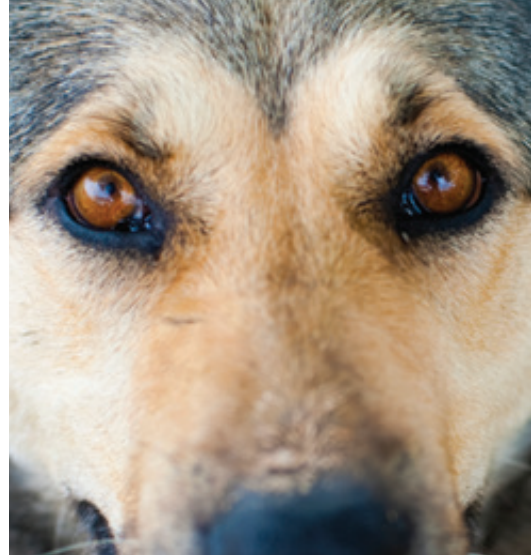
The dog's face

Eyes

Most dogs' eyes are brown.

Dogs are thought to be colour blind.

They see things in black, white or grey.



Some dogs can see for very long distances.

Dog's eyes can glow in the dark.

Teeth

Dogs have two sets of teeth. The first teeth a dog has are the 28 baby teeth. They keep these for the first 6–7 months. These teeth are replaced by 42 adult teeth.

Dog's teeth are used as a weapon to nip and bite and as a tool for cutting and tearing their food.





Nose

Dogs have a very good sense of smell, much better than people.

Dogs smell each other as a way of getting to know each other.

Dogs can use their noses to follow scents on the ground and in the air.

The scents they smell tell them what other animals or people have been there.



Ears

Not all dog's ears are the same.

Some are floppy.

Some are pointed.

Some you cannot see at all.



A dog will prick up its ears when it hears an unfamiliar sound.

Dogs can hear very high pitched sounds which we cannot hear.

Tongue

Dogs have a smooth tongue. They use their tongues to grab food and drink.

Dogs use their tongue to keep themselves cool.

Mother dogs clean their puppies with their tongue.

A dog also likes to show it likes someone by licking them.





Whiskers

Dogs have whiskers. They help dogs feel their way around.

Whiskers are about as wide as the dog's body and help a dog decide whether or not it can fit through an opening.

Dog's whiskers are very sensitive and can feel any change in the direction of the breeze.

Chapter 3 Communication

Dogs use their body and voice to communicate.

Body language

Here are some ways you can tell how a dog feels by looking at its body.



Standing tall with its head up, tail wagging = Friendly, happy dog



Ears up, head straight and tail wagging rapidly = Playful dog



Tail between legs, ears flat, body is lower to the ground = An anxious dog. The dog may become aggressive.



Ears pinned back, tail straight up, hair on its back standing up, growling = An unhappy aggressive dog. You should move away slowly.

Using their voice

Dogs can make different sounds. Here are some ways you can tell how a dog feels by listening to the noise that it is making.

Barking

- rapid barking – a warning
- short and sharp barks – happiness

Whine

- wants something
- wants attention



Whimpering

- in pain

Growl

- angry
- doesn't want to play



Howl

- a form of communication with other dogs
- lonely

Chapter 4

How do dogs help us?

Long ago each breed of dog was bred for a specific task. Today we have working dogs and dogs that are just pets.



Dogs with long legs are good runners and jumpers.

Greyhounds were bred to run very fast to catch smaller animals for food.

Today grey hounds are used for racing.

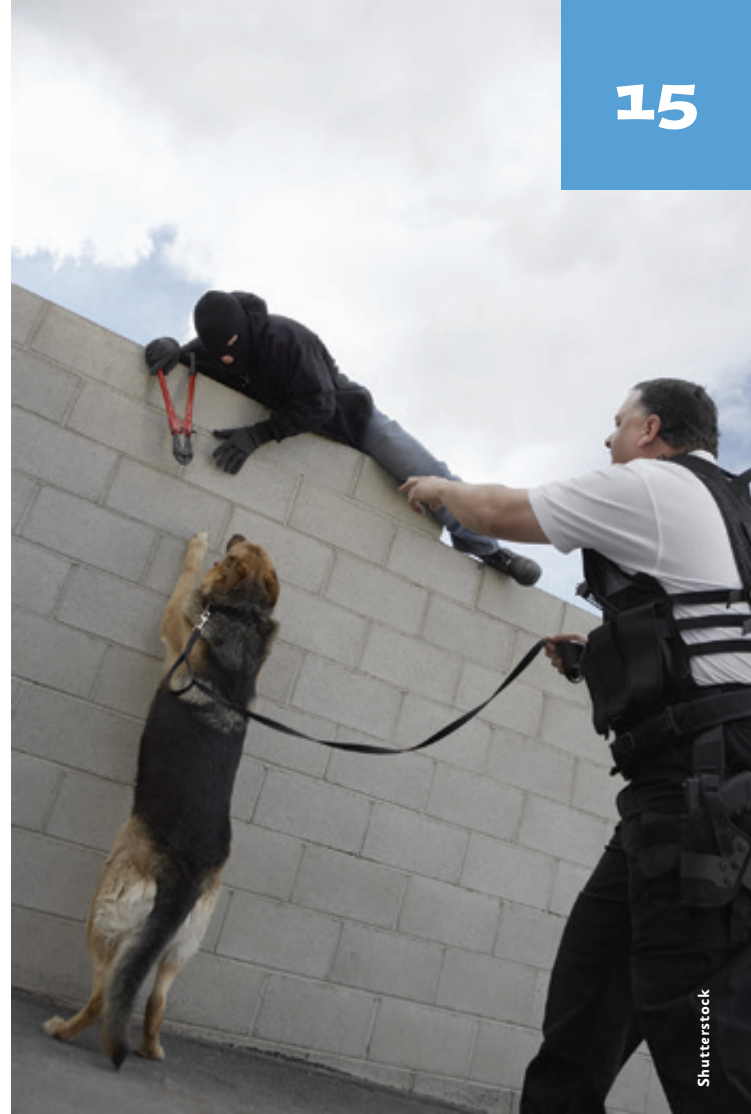
They make very good pets as they are gentle and affectionate but they can run very fast especially if they are on the scent of a rabbit.



Alsations were bred for herding and guarding sheep. They have long legs and are good at jumping.

Today they are used by the police and search and rescue teams because of their strength and intelligence.

They make good guard dogs and if they are trained well they make good family pets.



Poodles were bred to be a water dog. They fetched ducks and other birds out of the water for hunters. The hair was taken off their legs to help them swim. Today Poodles are often a family pet.

Dogs with short legs were bred to drive rabbits out of their burrows. Today these dogs are pets and enjoy digging in the garden. As a working dog they are used for smelling and tracking.



All sorts of dogs work for us.

Big and small dogs can be trained to do very special jobs.



Dogs can be trained to:

- find people who are lost in the snow
- find people who are lost in the bush
- find people who have not returned home
- pull sledges over the snow
- help blind and disabled people
- help people who are deaf. They can bark or collect the phone when the phone is ringing





- hunt for wild animals
- do tricks in a circus
- sniff out drugs and food
- race around a track
- guard people and property
- herd animals.



Chapter 5

Dogs and puppies

A male dog is called a dog, a female dog is called a bitch and baby dogs are called puppies.

Baby puppies which are born at the same time are called a litter. New born puppies are born both deaf and blind. They are fed milk by their mother.



At three weeks old they can see and hear and are starting to walk.

At four weeks old they like to play with other puppies in the litter.

At five to six weeks old the puppies have their first teeth.

At six to ten weeks old the puppy begins to explore around the home and garden.



Chapter 6

Some interesting facts about dogs



The tallest dog in the world is an Irish Wolfhound. It can reach up to 2.1 metres tall when it is standing on its hind legs.

The Chihuahua is the smallest dog. It is 15 cm tall. It weighs about 500 grams.



This dog is a Chow Chow. It has a blue tongue.

This dog is a Basenji. It cannot bark.



The heaviest dog is the Saint Bernard. It can weigh over 100 kilos.

The highest recorded high jump for a dog was performed by a greyhound in 2006. She jumped 1.7 metres.

In 1957 Laika a stray dog, was the first animal to orbit earth in a space craft.

It has been shown that owning a dog is good for a person's health.



A separate workbook accompanies this reading booklet.

You can choose to complete activities after reading each section of the booklet or at the completion of the whole booklet.

You are encouraged to read the booklet several times to increase your comprehension.

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Staffordshire terrier and cat, 13041722
Gray wolf, 16366359
Weimaraner, 12111648
Side view of Dalmatian, 4 years old, sitting, 13836603
Dachshund sitting in front of white background, 11655501
Nine dogs, 13045046
English Springer Spaniel (10 months), 8147841
German Shepherd isolated on white, 13920535
Labrador (3 years), 7530747
Beagle puppy, 14717440
Husky, 12126873
Rotweiler, 15717238
American Staffordshire terrier (2 years), 6022758
Yawning puppy, 5547635
Puppy love, 23297807
Crossbreed 5 months old sniffing the ground, 24358319
Dog face close up, 17104583
Jack russell terrier puppy against white background, 11190972
Front view of angry chihuahua growling standing, 12891571
I'll be good, 24080610
Jack Russell Terrier, 5210947
Are we going for a walk? 11217699
Scared Dog, 18888954
Angry dog, 4464403
Puppy for sale, 1005572
Chocolate labrador retriever puppy, 12173114
Three sharpei puppy dog, 12611485
Chow-chow dog, 20118147
Happy dog, 20914501
Good boy, 7784891
Grandfather and his dog, 1988034

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Female Spanish greyhound is running, 128248472
Greyhound in front of a white background, 21701074
A police man with trained dog catching thief, 120683020

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Demon, a one year old Saint Bernard by Ofrockwood,
DemonSitting.JPG

Anita Westervelt / FEMA

FEMA rescue dog by Anita Westervelt,
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