



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB™

Materials

AKC® MATERIALS:

- [AKC's Guide to Care and Training video](#)
- [AKC Guide to Purebred Dogs Poster](#)

REPRODUCIBLES:

1. [Bailey the Beagle's Responsible Dog Owner's Tip Sheet](#)
2. [Bailey Goes Home](#)
3. [Grooming Tools](#)
4. [Grooming Crossword](#)
5. [Hidden Picture: New Dog Activity](#)
6. [Bailey's Responsible Dog Ownership Coloring Book](#)
7. [How to Be a Responsible Dog Owner Bookmark](#)

OTHER MATERIALS:

- *Dog care items (food and water bowls, leash, collar, bed, etc.)*
- *Crayons or markers*
- *Paper*
- *Pens or pencils*

Topic: Basic Care for Canines

OBJECTIVE: TEACH CHILDREN HOW TO PROPERLY CARE FOR THEIR DOGS.

SUGGESTED PROCEDURE:

1. Bring your dog to a spot in the room where every child can see him. Introduce him to the children. Explain a brief history of the breed.
2. Show the *AKC's Guide to Care and Training* video. While we recommend stopping the video at 7:30, you can show the entire 24 minute video. Then, ask the children if they have a pet. Ask one of the children to describe how he or she cares for the pet each day.
3. Show the children the different items needed for proper dog care (food and water dish, leash, collar, ID tag, bed, etc.) Name and describe each item, and tell the children what it is used for.
4. Demonstrate how to properly groom your dog. Explain the different needs of different types of coats. For example, a double-coated dog needs special grooming tools or that owners should expect to spend more time grooming an Afghan Hound than a Basset Hound. Show the children pictures of the different breeds by referring to the *AKC's Guide to Purebred Dogs* poster. Remind the children that parasite (flea) prevention is an important aspect of grooming.
5. Ask the children if your dog has thumbs. Since he does not, how can he brush his teeth or clip his nails? Demonstrate how to brush your dog's teeth, and clip his nails. Remind children that as the dog's owner, you are responsible for his care.
6. Describe the importance of basic obedience training. Just as people learn to say "please" and "thank you," dogs learn to sit, stay and come when called. Demonstrate the five basic commands, sit, stay, come, heel, and down, with your dog. If your dog knows any other special tricks, this is a good time to show them off.

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS:

1. What steps can children take to ensure their pet has proper care?
2. What are the five basic obedience commands?
3. Why is basic obedience training important for every dog?

SUGGESTED ANSWERS:

1. It is important to take good care of the pets we bring into our homes to keep them healthy and happy. When you get a dog, you make a lifetime commitment to take good care of him. You can ensure your pet has proper care by reviewing basic care tips with your parents and your veterinarian. Dogs need daily exercise, regular grooming, nutritious food, health care, shelter and fresh water. Daily doses of love are important too! Every dog owner should have a leash, a collar with proper ID, food and water dishes and grooming materials.

Topic: Basic Care for Canines_{continued}

2. The five basic obedience commands are: sit, stay, come, down and heel.
3. Every dog should know the basic obedience commands so they can behave properly and be under control in public places.

HAVE EACH CHILD...

1. Draw pictures of the basic care items needed for canines.
2. Pretend they hired a pet sitter for the day. Write out step-by-step instructions for the sitter outlining the dog's care.
3. Complete the activities provided under "Reproducibles."

NOTES:
