Topic: Careers in Dogs

OBJECTIVE: MAKE STUDENTS AWARE OF THE MANY TYPES OF CAREERS INVOLVING DOGS.

PREPARATION:

- Invite members of the dog-loving community to participate in your presentation. Suggested people to invite: a dog trainer, dog walker or sitter, individuals involved in dog shows, veterinarian, animal control officer, or veterinary technician. Encourage your guests to bring in their well-trained dog when appropriate to demonstrate daily responsibilities of their profession.

SUGGESTED PROCEDURE:

1. Create a list of all the careers students can think of that involve dogs.
2. Ask your guests to share their experiences in their field. Encourage them to include how they started in their profession as well as their education, training, recommended personality traits and advice for young people interested in the career.
3. Talk about the different levels of education and the areas of study pertinent to popular careers involving dogs not represented by your guests.
4. Distribute copies of the interview questionnaire. Ask your guests to spread out in the space. The students should choose the profession they find most interesting from those represented by your guests and divide into groups according to their preference. Then, they should interview the guests in the smaller groups.
5. Have the students and guests regroup after the interviews are complete and allow one student volunteer from each group share an interesting fact they learned through the interview.

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS:

1. Why is it important to think about possible careers now?
2. What personality traits should one have for “_____” career?

ON THEIR OWN:

- Draw a picture representing the day in the life of one of a professional in the dog world.
- Have the students write a story about the day in the life of a professional in the dog world.
- Have students attend a dog show and complete the “Going to the Dogs” activity.

NOTES:

www.akc.org
How many different careers can you locate at a dog show?

Find people with the following careers. Check off each career as you locate the person, and write the individual’s name next to the occupation.

- AKC Field Representative ________________________________
- Breeder ____________________________________________
- Dog Handler________________________________________
- Dog Judge __________________________________________
- Ring Steward _________________________________________
- Show Chair __________________________________________
- Show Secretary _______________________________________
- Show Superintendent _________________________________
- Dog Food Salesman _________________________________
- Dog Trainer _________________________________________
- Dog Supply Vendors _________________________________
- Groomer ____________________________________________
- Photographer ________________________________________
- Veterinarian _________________________________________
- Veterinary Technician ________________________________

Other:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Interviewer’s Name:

Interviewee’s Name:

Occupation:

Do you have a dog at home? If so, how many, what age, and what breed?

Why did you choose your occupation?

What are some of the things you learned in school that you still use now?

Did you attend school after you graduated from high school? If so, how many additional years did you go to school?

What was your first job?

What do you like most about your job and occupation?

What advice do you have for people who are interested in your career?