



EDUCATOR'S GUIDE

Classroom Activities



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DOG SCIENCE UNLEASHED

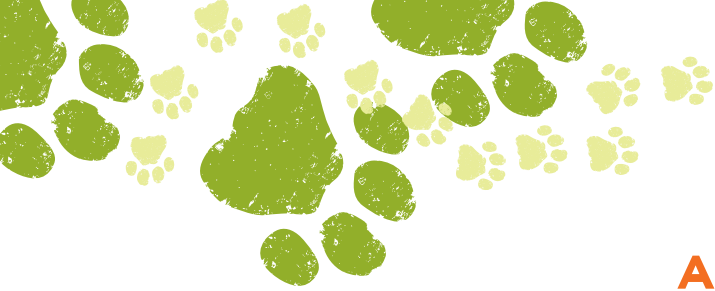
FUN ACTIVITIES
TO DO WITH YOUR
CANINE COMPANION



HELPFUL CANINE TIPS!

Don't have dog friends at home?
No problem! Check to see if a
local canine organization in your
area is willing to come visit!
Many organizations, such as
Paws to Read, bring
trained dogs to schools
and libraries!

DISCLAIMER: Various steps in some of the activities in this book involve potential risk of personal injury, property damage, and other dangers associated with the use of fire, sharp objects, and/or other materials. Some potential dangers include burns, cuts, and abrasions. By performing and/or allowing your child to perform any activities presented in this book, you: (i) assume all risks of damages or injury to any person or property as a result of you and/or your scientist's performance of the activities; and (ii) acknowledge that the author and publisher disclaim all responsibility and liability for any damage or injury that may result from you and/or your young scientist's performance of the activities. —*Dog Science Unleashed*



ACTIVITY 1

YAPPY HOUR: Calling All Kids Who Love Canine Companions!

Materials: grown-ups, utility knives, tennis balls, and dog treats

Optional materials: copies of *Dog Science Unleashed: Fun Activities To Do With Your Canine Companion*

Host a treat-making hour! Read page 53 for detailed directions on how children can create doggy treat holders. This yappy hour can kick off your study and celebration of dogs. Have kids bring the treats home to their furry friends along with copies of the book! Invite children to take photos of their dogs finding the treats and to send in the photos! Make a *paw*-some display for all to see!

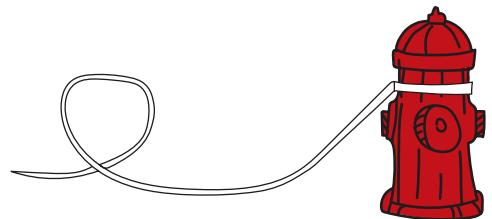
ACTIVITY 2

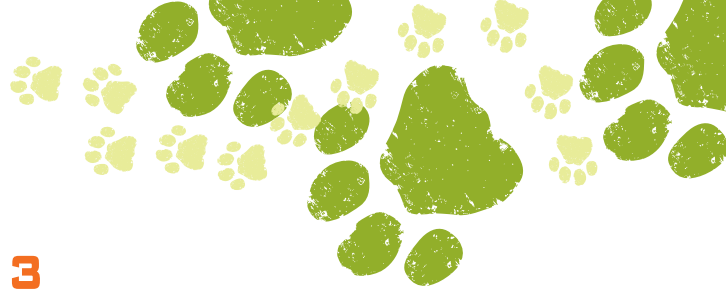
“LAB” REPORTS!

Materials: poster board and markers

Optional materials: copies of *Dog Science Unleashed: Fun Activities To Do With Your Canine Companion* and photos of dogs completing the experiments

After children complete the canine experiments at home, invite them to document their findings through poster board “lab” reports. Depending on the number and ages of the children, they can work individually or in groups. Children can be divided by their dog’s breed or size, or by the experiment type. Encourage children to think about what information scientists would include in their lab reports and what would be most helpful or interesting for people to know! Remind them to record dog type, size, and age; experiment steps; and results! If possible, have them include photos of their own dog participating in the experiments!





ACTIVITY 3

DOGGIE MUSEUM SHARE OUT!

Materials: poster boards from activity 2, worksheets for recording

Have children display their posters throughout the classroom or library space. Group them by experiment. Preview the recording sheet with them. Have children walk around and study the poster boards. Encourage them to record data from the experiment(s) they are most interested in. After a period of time, come back together and have children share their findings. Encourage them to come up with specific reasons why the same experiment could produce either similar or different results.

SEE HOW THEY RUN

A dog's stepping pattern, or **gait**, depends on the speed that the dog is moving. Not all dogs use all four patterns, and some patterns vary a little between dogs.

Walk: A walking dog moves all four legs at different times. A back leg moves first, followed by the front leg on the same side. The back leg on the opposite side goes next, followed by the other front leg, all in very quick succession. It is like you and your friend using the same legs, with the front person about half a stride behind the back person.

Trot: For most dogs, trotting is their favorite way to run. A trotting dog moves its front leg and the opposite back leg at the same time, or almost at the same time.

Pace: A pacing dog moves both left feet together and then both right feet together. This is the least common gait for most dogs.

Gallop: This is the fastest gait—essentially, a leap from his back to his front legs over and over again. A galloping greyhound can reach 45 miles an hour (72 km/h).



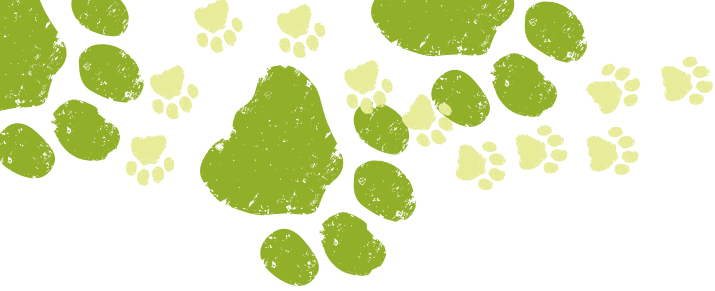
WALK



TROT



PACE



FIDO REPORT ANALYSIS

Dog Name: _____

Dog Breed: _____

Dog Size: _____

Dog Age: _____

Experiment Performed: _____

Results: _____

Dog Name: _____

Dog Breed: _____

Dog Size: _____

Dog Age: _____

Experiment Performed: _____

Results: _____

Dog Name: _____

Dog Breed: _____

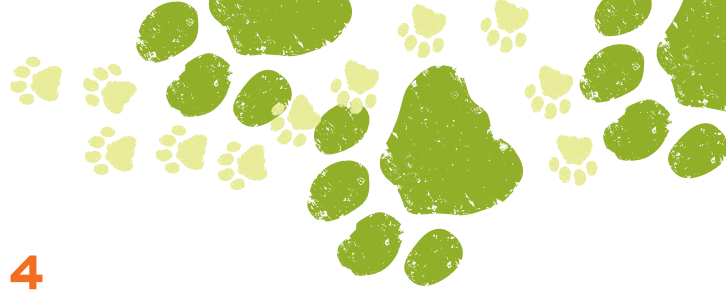
Dog Size: _____

Dog Age: _____

Experiment Performed: _____

Results: _____

Are the results similar or different for these dogs? Why do you think so?
(Provide multiple reasons.)



ACTIVITY 4

DOG SKILLS VS. HUMAN SKILLS!

Materials:

SMELL TEST: a blindfold, hammer and nail, 4 plastic containers with lids, 4 foods with odors, such as lemons, bananas, oranges, chocolate, garlic, or mint

HEARING TEST: 2 straws, scissors, measuring tape

HEART RATE TEST: stethoscope, clock or timer

Compare human and dog senses! Have children experiment with (human) friends and compare their results to their dogs' results.

1. Smell test (pg. 18-19). With adult supervision, have children use the hammer and nail to punch a couple of holes in the lid of each plastic container. Put the food inside the container and label it. While the participant is not looking, arrange the containers. Blindfold the participant and have her smell each container and record what she says she smells—and which smells the best! Compare the friends' abilities and preferences to those of the dogs.
2. Hearing test (pg. 27). Measure the distance of your hearing. Make the two straw whistles according to the directions in the book. Blindfold the participant and ask him to raise his hand each time he hears the whistle. Gradually increase your distance from the participant. Record the results and see if there was a difference between the two whistles. Compare the results to differences between the two whistles for each dog.
3. Heart rate test (pg. 35). Have children listen to each other's heart rate. Have them count the number of beats they hear in 15 seconds and multiply that by 4. Compare the humans' heart rates to the dogs'!



This guide was created by Educational Consultant, Karen Clement