



Packet for Grades 9-10

Grades 9-10 Packet

Essential Questions:

- 🐾 How can I use my time to help my community?
- 🐾 How can I engage with organizations for animal welfare?

Enduring Understandings:

- 🐾 There are many careers in animal rescue and animal safety.
- 🐾 I can help in my community!

Grades 9-10 Packet

Introduction to Careers	Animal Welfare	Ways I Can Help
<p>🐾 Activity: Career Research Project</p> <p>🐾 Standards:</p> <p>🐾 CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.</p> <p>🐾 CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2.B Develop the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.</p>	<p>🐾 Activity: ESA And Service Animals Project</p> <p>🐾 Standards:</p> <p>🐾 CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.1 Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.</p> <p>🐾 CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.1.A Introduce precise claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.</p>	<p>🐾 Activity: Community Engagement Project</p> <p>🐾 Standards:</p> <p>🐾 CCCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)</p> <p>🐾 CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.8 Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the usefulness of each source in answering the research question; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.</p>

Name _____ Date _____

Careers with Animal Research Project

There are many jobs specific to animal rescue! Below are some jobs you may not have heard of before! Today, you are going to complete a research project that will dive into the careers that you could study in animal rescue! After you have done a small research project on the careers, you are going to write a five paragraph research paper on one of these careers! Use the guidelines on the worksheet to be successful!

Job	What do they do?	What do I find interesting about this job?	What do I think would be a challenge of this career?
Marine Rescue Officer			
Wildlife Rehabilitator			
Wildlife Conservationist			



Job	What do they do?	What do I find interesting about this job?	What do I think would be a challenge of this career?
Aquarist			
K9 Unit Trainer			
Conversation Biologist			
Animal Rescue Officer			



Name _____ Date _____

Community Engagement Research Project

There are many shelters and rescues in your area, and each and every one of them could use your help and support! Today, you are going to do a research project on the organizations around you and make an action plan to help! After you complete your action plan, there is a reflection journal for you to complete in complete sentences.

Organization	Mission and Purpose	Structure	Brainstorm Ways to Help
<i>What is the organization's name? What is/are their social media handle(s)?</i>	<i>What is the purpose of this organization? What kind of animal(s) do they serve?</i>	<i>How is this organization run? Is there a physical location? Foster services? Additional locations?</i>	<i>Can I volunteer (check guidelines), can I donate my time, talents, or treasures? Can I make something for them? Can I organize a drive for materials, etc?</i>



Organization	Mission and Purpose	Structure	Brainstorm Ways to Help

1. Which organization is the most interesting to you? Why?

2. Look at the list of ways you can help. Choose one and circle it! That is the task that you will make your action plan!



Name _____ Date _____

Community Engagement Action Plan

Task
<p><i>For which organization am I creating this action plan? What is the way I can help (ie. supply drive, toy making, volunteering, etc)</i></p>

Action Plan			
First Step	Second Step	Third Step	Fourth Step
<p><i>The best first step is to contact the organization or rescue and see what help or support they need! After talking to them, you may need to change your action plan slightly.</i></p>	<p><i>The best second step is gathering materials, scheduling volunteer time, deciding when/where to hold the drive, etc. This step should explain when and how your task will be complete!</i></p>	<p><i>The best third step is about the details! How are you going to advertise your drive, get to and from your volunteering, make your item for the organization, etc. This should be all the details in your task!</i></p>	<p><i>The best fourth step is the completion of your task! Confirm and finalize everything, and go help your local organization!</i></p>
<p><i>Will this step require me to buy anything? If so, what and how much will it cost?</i></p>	<p><i>What is required of me in this step? Be detailed!</i></p>	<p><i>What are the details that I will need to figure out for this task?</i></p>	<p><i>How will I know the action plan is done?</i></p>
<p><i>When do I want to be done with this step?</i></p>	<p><i>When do I want to be done with this step?</i></p>	<p><i>When do I want to be done with this step?</i></p>	<p><i>When do I want to be done with this step?</i></p>



Name _____ Date _____

Emotional Support and Service Animals Article and Questions¹

Animals are amazing, we all know this! But did you know that many animals work for a living? Read and annotate the article from the American Kennel Club below, and then answer the questions at the end in complete sentences.

Our dogs are integral to our daily lives. They follow our commands, work with us in various capacities, and act as faithful companions. Dog ownership has increased dramatically over the last 100 years, and today, dogs as companions and working partners are valued by more than 80 million U.S. owners.

Studies have shown that dogs provide health benefits, and can increase fitness, lower stress, and improve happiness. Service dogs encompass all of these abilities, combined with training to perform specific tasks for individuals with disabilities. During the last decade, the use of service dogs has rapidly expanded.

As service dogs have become more commonplace, however, so too have problems that can result from a lack of understanding about service dog training, working functions, and access to public facilities. In response, AKC Government Relations is working with members of Congress, regulatory agencies, leading service dog trainers and providers, and transportation/hospitality industry groups to find ways to address these issues. The benefits service dogs can provide also continue to expand. In the 1920s, a service dog was a Seeing Eye Dog and a Seeing Eye Dog meant a German Shepherd Dog. In 2019, service dogs are trained from among many different breeds, and perform an amazing variety of tasks to assist disabled individuals.

What Is a Service Dog?

A service dog helps a person with a disability lead a more independent life. According to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a service dog is “a dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for a person with a disability.”

“Disability” is defined by the ADA as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, including people with history of such an impairment, and people perceived by others as having such an impairment. The ADA prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in employment, state and local government, public accommodations, commercial facilities, transportation, and telecommunications.

¹ Karetnick, J. (2021, October 7). *Service dogs 101: Everything you need to know about service dogs*. American Kennel Club. Retrieved October 2021, from <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/training/service-dog-training-101/>.



A service dog is trained to take a specific action whenever required, to assist a person with their disability. The task the dog performs is directly related to their person's disability. For example, guide dogs help blind and visually impaired individuals navigate their environments. Hearing dogs help alert deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals to important sounds. Mobility dogs assist individuals who use wheelchairs, walking devices, and who have balance issues. Medical alert dogs might also signal the onset of a medical issue such as a seizure or low blood sugar, alert the user to the presence of allergens, and myriad other functions.

Psychiatric service dogs assist individuals with disabilities such as obsessive-compulsive disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, schizophrenia, and other conditions. Examples of work performed by psychiatric service dogs could include entering a dark room and turning on a light to mitigate stress-inducing condition, interrupting repetitive behaviors, and reminding a person to take medication. The ADA considers service dogs to be primarily working animals that are not considered pets.

Common Service Dog Breeds

Service dogs can range from very small to very large. The dog must be of a size to comfortably and effectively execute the tasks needed to help mitigate a disability. For example, a Papillon is not an appropriate choice to pull a wheelchair, but could make an excellent hearing dog.

Breeds like Great Danes, Saint Bernards, and Bernese Mountain Dogs possess the height and strength to provide mobility assistance, while Poodles, which come in Toy, Miniature, and Standard varieties, are particularly versatile. A Toy Poodle puppy can begin early scent training games in preparation for the work of alerting on blood sugar variations, while a larger Standard Poodle puppy may learn to activate light switches and carry objects.

The most common breeds trained as guide dogs are Labrador Retrievers, Golden Retrievers and German Shepherd Dogs. [...]

Regardless of breed or mix, the best service dogs are handler-focused, desensitized to distractions, and highly trained to reliably perform specific tasks. They are not easily diverted from their tasks at home or in public and remain attentive and responsive their owners while working.

Is A Dog in a Vest a Service Dog?

Although some service dogs may wear vests, special harnesses, collars or tags, the ADA does not require service dogs to wear vests or display identification. Conversely, many dogs that do wear ID vests or tags specifically are not actual service dogs.



For example, emotional support animals (ESAs) are animals that provide comfort just by being with a person. But, because these dogs are not trained to perform a specific job or task for a person with a disability, they do not qualify as service dogs under the ADA.

The ADA makes a distinction between psychiatric service dogs and emotional support animals. For example, according to the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Disability Rights Section, "If the dog has been trained to sense that an anxiety attack is about to happen and take a specific action to help avoid the attack or lessen its impact, that would qualify as a service animal. However, if the dog's mere presence provides comfort, that would not be considered a service animal under the ADA."

ESAs are not allowed access to public facilities under the ADA. However, some state and local governments have enacted laws that allow owners to take ESAs into public places. ESA owners are urged to check with their state, county, and city governments for current information on permitted and disallowed public access for ESAs.

Owners of ESAs may be eligible for access to housing that is not otherwise available to pet dog owners, and travelers may be permitted bring ESAs into the cabins on commercial flights under specified conditions. The requirements for access to housing and air travel for ESAs can vary by location and destination, and these rules are subject to change. Therapy dogs provide opportunities for petting, affection, and interaction in a variety of settings on a volunteer basis. Therapy dogs and their owners bring cheer and comfort to hospital patients, assisted living center residents, stressed travelers in airports, college students during exams, and in other situation where friendly, well-trained dogs are welcome. Therapy dogs are also used to relieve stress and bring comfort to victims of traumatic events or disasters. Many groups that train therapy dogs or that take dogs on pet therapy visits have matching ID tags, collars, or vests.

Therapy dogs are not defined as service dogs under the ADA, do not receive access to public facilities, are not eligible for special housing accommodations, and do not receive special cabin access on commercial flights.

Courthouse dogs are another category of dogs that sometimes wear vests or display other ID, but are not service dogs. Several states have enacted measures that allow a child or vulnerable person to be accompanied by a courthouse, facility, or therapy dog during trial proceedings. The rules and requirements for use of these dogs vary by state, and additional states are considering enacting similar laws. Courtroom dogs are not protected under the ADA and are not eligible for special housing accommodations or cabin access on commercial flights.

Where to Find a Service Dog

Professional service dog training organizations and individuals who train service dogs are located throughout the U.S. They work to train dogs to perform a skill or skills specific to a



handler's disability. As part of their training, service dogs are taught public access skills, such as house training, settling quietly at the handler's side in public, and remaining under control in a variety of settings.

Professional service dog trainers have high standards for their dogs, and the drop-out rates for service dog candidates can run as high as 50 to 70 percent. Fortunately, there are often long lists of available homes for dogs that don't make the cut.

Both non-profit and for-profit organizations train service dogs. The cost of training a service dog can exceed \$25,000. This may include training for the person with a disability who receives the dog and periodic follow-up training for the dog to ensure working reliability. Some organizations provide service dogs to disabled individuals at no cost or may offer financial aid for people who need, but cannot afford, a service dog. Other organizations may charge fees for a trained dog.

Persons with disabilities and those acting on their behalf are encouraged work with an experienced, reputable service dog organization or trainer. Carefully check out the organization, ask for recommendations, and make an informed decision before investing funds or time to acquire a trained service dog.

How to Train Your Own Service Dog

The ADA does not require service dogs to be professionally trained. Individuals with disabilities have the right to train a service dog themselves and are not required to use a professional service dog trainer or training program.

A service dog candidate should:

- Be calm, especially in unfamiliar settings
- Be alert, but not reactive
- Have a willingness to please
- Be able to learn and retain information
- Be capable of being socialized to many different situations and environments
- Be reliable in performing repetitive tasks

Individuals who wish to train their own service dogs should first work with their candidate dog on foundation skills. Start with house training, which should include eliminating on command in different locations. Socialize the dog with the objective of having it remain on task in the presence of unfamiliar people, places, sights, sounds, scents, and other animals. Teach the dog to focus on the handler and ignore distractions. The AKC Canine Good Citizen program can provide guidelines and benchmarks for foundation skills.

In addition to socialization and basic obedience training, a service dog must be trained to perform work or specific tasks to assist with a disability.



Under ADA rules, in situations where it is not obvious that a dog is a service animal, only two questions may be asked: (1) is the dog a service animal required because of a disability? and (2) what work or task has the dog been trained to perform?

The reply to question (2) must affirm that the service dog has been trained to take specific action when needed to assist the person with a disability.

The Epidemic of Fake Service Dogs

Federal laws provide special accommodations to the disabled and limit the questions that may be asked about disabilities. Unfortunately, too often these laws are abused by people who fraudulently misrepresent their dogs as service animals.

This harms the truly disabled, confuses the public, and affects the reputation of legitimate service dog users. Even worse, a poorly-trained fake service animal can be a danger to the public and to real service dogs. In response to this growing problem, the American Kennel Club in 2015 issued a policy position statement on *Misuse of Service Dogs*.

In 2016, the Association of Service Dog Providers for Military Veterans created "CGC Plus", a minimum standard for training and behavior for the service dogs their members provide to veterans. CGC Plus requires dogs to pass the AKC Canine Good Citizen, Community Canine, and Urban CGC tests, plus demonstrate proficiency in performing three randomly selected specific services for a disabled person. The 2016 federal PAWS bill incorporated the AKC CGC into service dog requirements for Veterans' Administration-funded dog.

State and local governments continue to introduce and pass laws that make it an offense to misrepresent a service animal. In 2018, 48 measures were introduced to address fake service animals.

The AKC also works with the American Service Dog Access Coalition, a charitable not-for-profit organization comprised of major service dog groups, service dog access providers, advocates for the disabled, service dog trainers, and policymakers seeking to improve access for legitimate service dog teams while incentivizing high quality behavioral standards for all service dogs, and educating the public about the crime of service dog fraud.

Service dogs are more than pets, and more than companions. The important work they do enhances independence for children and adults with physical, cognitive and developmental disabilities, and improves the everyday lives of thousands of people across the country.



Directions: Answer the following question in complete sentences.

1. Using evidence from the article, define the difference between a service animal, an emotional support animal, and a therapy dog.
2. What kind of work do service animals do? Provide one quote from the article as support.
3. What is the harm of misidentifying a service animal?
4. Unfortunately, cats cannot be service animals, but they can be ESAs! In your own opinion, what kind of emotional support can a cat provide that a dog cannot? Why do they make good ESAs for people?

