



PROGRAMME 17: POLICE DOG

AIM

The aim of this topic is for children to become aware of the difference that police dogs make in our community, and of their importance.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Children will:

- Learn the processes involved in ordinary dogs becoming police dogs
 - Learn the variety of tasks that police dogs are required to do
 - Learn how to approach and handle a strange dog
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SKILLS

- Communication
 - Sociability and co-operation
 - Problem solving
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VIRTUES

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| - Courage | - Consideration |
| - Assertiveness | - Preparedness |
| - Caring | - Faithfulness |
| - Friendliness | - Loyalty |
| - Obedience | - Service |
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Lesson (adapt for Juniors)

View the DVD *Police Dog* before the lesson.

Woof Woof

Begin with a short game where children are seated in a circle and are holding hands. One child is to be the **dog handler** and is sent out of the classroom. Two children in the circle will be the **dogs** and are to say 'woof woof' when their neighbour squeezes their hands. The idea is for someone to start squeezing a hand **one way** and they in turn pass it on around the circle. The dog handler has to come in and point out one of the dogs in the room and if they are right they have another turn. If wrong, they swap with one of the dogs and that dog becomes the dog handler and so on.

2. Begin with question: What are the differences between a pet dog and a police dog?
Make comparisons on a chart.

DOGS

DOMESTIC DOG

- household pet
- eats pet food
- can sometimes be obedient
- plays a lot during the day
- is sometimes trained

POLICE DOG

- working dog
 - eats pet food
 - very obedient
 - plays
 - works with the police/armed offenders squad
 - well trained
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3. Discuss the various processes that dogs need to undergo in order to become a police dog.
There are three phases:
- phase one: basic obedience training, simple tracking.
 - phase two: advanced tracking, obedience, agility, training in ruined buildings.
 - phase three: advanced tracking, team work with a police handler.
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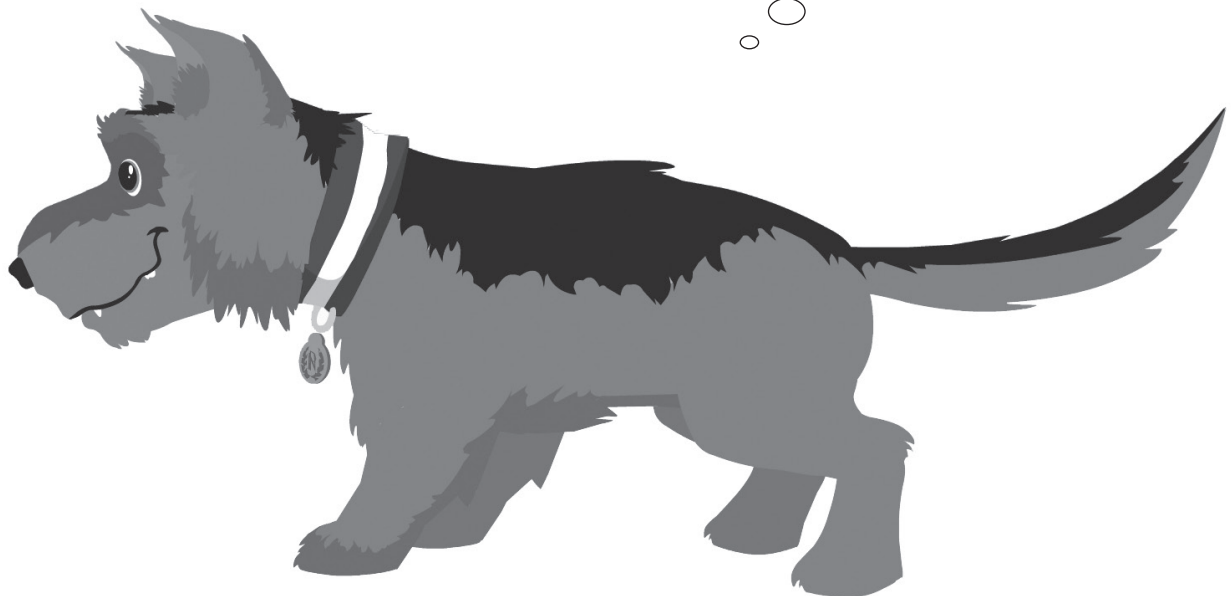
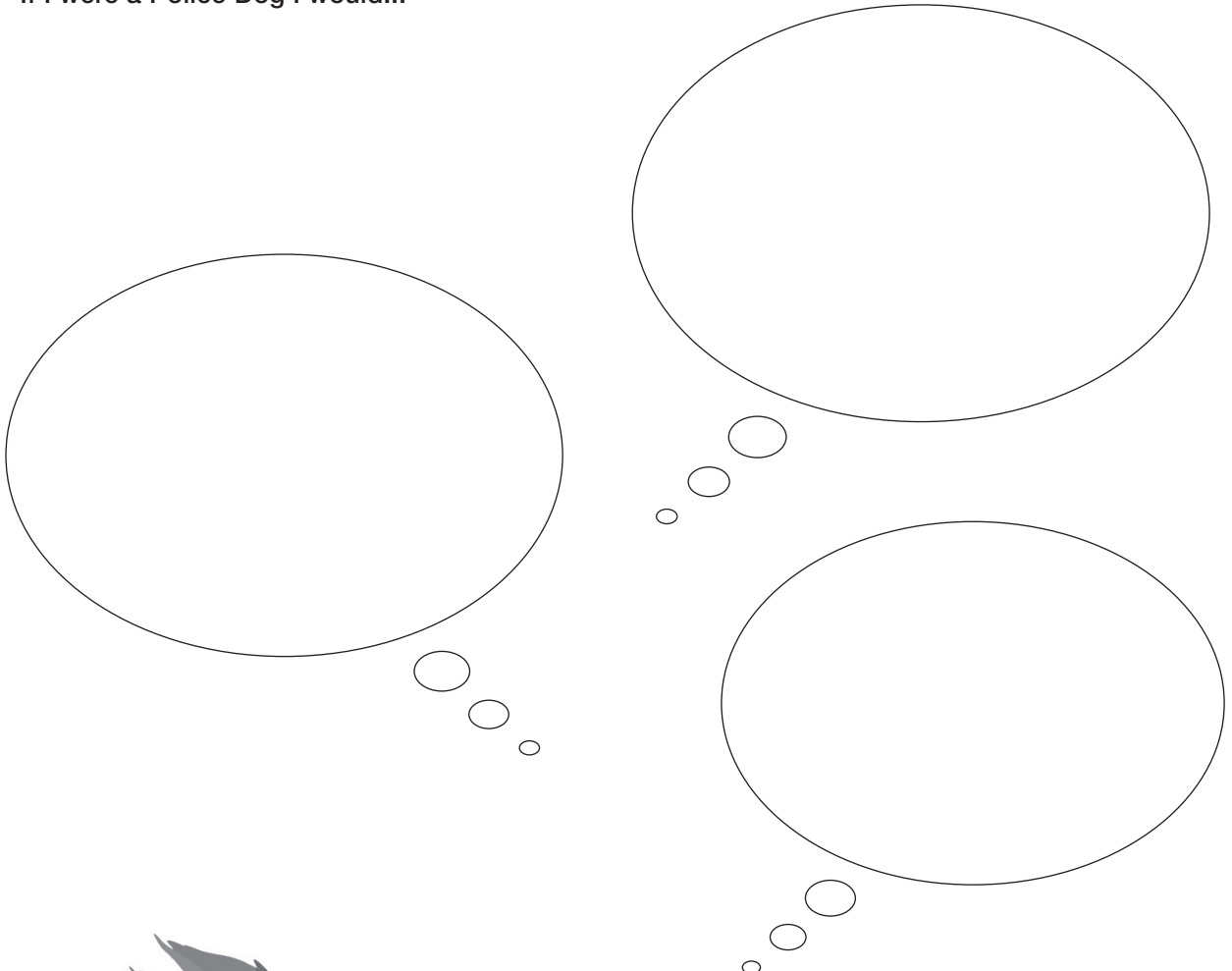
4. Using www.wikipedia.org.com research and brainstorm the different jobs and tasks a police dog has to undertake in the community with the dog handler. Write the jobs on a large piece of paper for display.
Using the copysheet of Bobby, have children cut and paste the variety of tasks/jobs police do in our community.
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Bobby the Police Dog

Name: Date:

Bobby is dreaming of becoming a Police Dog someday. What activities and jobs will he do if he is a Police Dog? Fill in the speech bubbles with his thoughts.

If I were a Police Dog I would...



Supplementary Activities

Visual Language

Make a comic of Bobby in a situation such as finding a lost child, finding victims in an earthquake etc. Use speech bubbles for Bobby's thoughts.

Design a poster on the do's and don't when approaching dogs.

- Example:
- Do walk slowly up to the dog.
 - Do let them come to you.
 - Do move away when he looks angry, or is eating or sleeping.
 - Do reward dogs when they have done well.
 - Don't approach angry dogs etc.
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Topic/I Computer Technology

Write to the Police Dog Handlers via the local police station and find out if your area has police dogs. Find out the names and duties that they are responsible for. Find out the names of the police handlers. Ask for a visit if possible. Children can phone, fax or email.

Draw an obstacle course for your dogs to go around. Constable Dan on the DVD said Police dogs needed to be good at their job.

See if a dog ranger will come to your class to talk about rules involving dogs e.g., when they must be on a leash or have a collar, when they can be on a beach, licensing, etc. Also have the ranger talk about how to look after a dog.

Research dogs and their role as man's best friend.

Reading

Read two different non-fiction books on dogs. Compare and contrast the different characteristics of each dog, such as the eye colour, breed, colour of fur, height, appearance etc.

Written Language

Have children make/draw a design of a special police dog. It could be part robotic and part dog. Give it a name and label the special characteristics of the dog. Write a birth certificate and/or profile for the police dog. Include: name, age, breed, address, favourite food etc.

Pet Day

Have a pet day at your school and have children talk about their pets, their pet's name, length of time it has been in the family, breed, etc. Have a show time where everyone gets to see all the pets for a competition if desired. Dogs could perform various agility and tracking courses set up by the school.

Art

Have children draw a still life of a dog or pet from home or at school.
