

Therapy Dogs

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What is the difference between a service dog and a therapy dog?



DOG VS. DOG

SERVICE DOG

- Have legal rights
- Provide a service with anyone that has a disability
- These dogs are with their human 24/7
- Service dog is NOT a pet
- Trained and tested from birth

THERAPY DOG

- DO NOT have legal rights
- Need permission to go into a facility
- Only provide COMFORT for certain amount of hours
- Therapy dog IS a pet
- Can not be trained until they have reached 1 year of age

Which breeds are therapy dogs???

- ANY dog is eligible
- Must display certain characteristics
- Top 5 breeds
 1. Golden Retrievers
 2. Labradors
 3. German Shepherds
 4. Setters (Red, English, Irish, or Gordon)
 5. Samoyeds



Hogan's story

Play slideshow



CGC Certification

Canine Good Citizen training

Sign dog owner's pledge

Perform 10 step requirements

Dog must be 1 year of age



An AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB Program

Interview Dog handler/owner

Ask dog owner any questions you may have...

1. What if some students are scared?
2. What if some students are allergic?
3. What if a student mistreats the dog?



Make sure to ask questions based upon the needs of your students.

Why use a therapy dog???

- Bring joy and laughter to institutions that might feel sterile, cold, and frightening
- Give something to do, talk ,and think about other than the illness, difficulty, or problem
- Help people cope with illness, loss, or depression
- Stimulate the senses
- Possible exercise
- Boost morale, lower stress levels, and lower blood pressure
- Encourage communication, breaking the ice

Therapy dogs and Autism

Many children with autism tend to create a private inner world, constructing a bridge to that world is essential and a therapy-dog program can do just that. ~ Temple Grandin

Feeding, walking, and petting a dog will help bring children with autism out of their shell because they are interacting and stimulating their senses.

These dogs are calm and do not speak, creating an environment that is less likely to have behavior problems.



Video



How many of you would use a therapy dog in your classroom?

YES

NO