
Lesson Topic: Taking Care of Dogs

Suggested Time

15-20 minutes

Objectives/Goals

The student(s) will be able to:

1. Determine different things dogs need to be safe, happy and healthy
2. Walk through the steps of taking care of a dog

Materials

- Dog food
 - Bowls for food/water
 - Poop bags
 - Toys
 - Crate and/or dog bed
 - Computer/tablet to watch the video(s)
 - Water
 - Leash
 - Treats
 - Comb/brush
 - Shampoo/conditioner
 - Paper and writing tool
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Guided Practice

1. Introduce the lesson.

- a. Today we are going to discuss different items needed to take care of a dog.
- b. We are going to walk through the steps of taking care of a dog.

2. Watch the video on how to take care of pets.

It is around 10 minutes long. Review the discussion points from the video.

3. Discuss the different items needed to take care of a dog.

List them on paper if you choose.

- Dog food
- Water
- Bowls for food and water
- Leash
- Poop bags
- Treats
- Toys
- Grooming supplies such as a brush and shampoo
- Crate and/or dog bed

4. Discuss feeding a dog.

List on paper if you choose.

- Dogs may eat dry dog food from a bag or wet dog food from a can.
- The amount of food a dog eats per day depends on their size. They may need fed once or twice. Check with a trusted adult on how much food to give your dog every day.
- Limit the amount of people food given to your dog as it may upset its stomach or make it very ill.
- Make sure other family members haven't already fed your dog before you feed it.
- Dogs should always have fresh water to drink. If you see that the water bowl is empty, fill it up.

5. Discuss ways to give a dog exercise.

List them on paper if you choose.

- Take your dog for a walk. Make sure your dog is wearing a leash and you bring a poop bag. Poop should be cleaned up immediately. Tie up used poop bags, and keep them with you until you can safely dispose them in a garbage can during your walk or once you get home.
- Let your dog run in the yard several times a day if you have a yard.
- Play with your dog indoors frequently with dog toys. They may also play with dog toys outside.
- Always ask a trusted adult for permission before leaving the house with your dog or letting your dog outside. Let them know where you plan on going during your walk.

6. Discuss giving treats to a dog.

List on paper if you choose.

- There are many kinds of treats available for dogs.
- It's important to limit the amount of treats a dog receives. Too many is unhealthy.
- Stick to varieties your dog likes. Ask a trusted adult if you're unsure or if your dog has special nutritional needs.

7. Discuss grooming supplies for dogs.

List them on paper if you choose.

- It's good to use a brush, comb or grooming mitt several times a week to remove your dog's loose hair and keep it clean and healthy. Always be gentle while brushing or combing your dog.
- It's also good to bathe your dog with dog shampoo every couple of weeks. Ask a trusted adult how often to bathe your dog and to help you walk through the process.

8. Discuss cleaning a dog's sleeping area.

List on paper if you choose.

- If your dog sleeps in a crate, wipe it and wash it out when it becomes dirty.
- If your dog sleeps in a dog bed, wash it when it becomes dirty.

9. Review this lesson.

Supervise the student while they practice taking care of your household's dog(s). Stress the importance of the student asking for permission when taking pets outside for a walk or to play.

Additional Resources

checklist.com/dog-care-checklist/

This web site provides a checklist for dog health, hygiene and happiness.

aspca.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/people-foods-avoid-feeding-your-pets

This web site lists people foods that are dangerous for pets to eat.