



## Facts About Dogs

- 🐕 The tallest dog in the world is the Great Dane, which can be up to 1 metre tall and weigh almost 200 pounds.
- 🐕 One of the smallest dogs in the world is the Yorkie, which is only about 15 cm tall and weighs only 7 pounds.
- 🐕 Dogs are not just fun pets, some of them do very important jobs, like police dogs and seeing-eye dogs.
- 🐕 Dogs are fantastic pets! They can be fun to watch and many dogs love to cuddle and play, but it's important not to be rough with your dog because it might scratch or bite you by accident.



## Caring For Your Dog

Dogs are fun but they can be a lot of work! They need to be looked after every single day of the year, even holidays and school days. Your dog needs you to do some important things:

- ▶ **Go to the Vet:** Your dog should go to the veterinarian at least once a year for a check-up to make sure it is healthy, and sometimes for shots or medicine to help prevent fleas and worms.
- ▶ **Food & Water:** Make sure your dog always has a nice clean bowl of water that it can get to. Adult dogs should be fed twice a day. Never bother a dog that is eating.
- ▶ **Brushing & Bathing:** Dogs with long fur need to be brushed so their fur doesn't get knotted. Dogs also need to be given a bath sometimes, especially if they play outside a lot and get dirty!
- ▶ **Playing & Exercise:** Young dogs and puppies love to play! Always use a toy to play with your dog, or it may start to think that your fingers and toes are toys, and it may bite you. Dogs need lots of exercise to stay healthy. You should walk your dog at least once or twice a day.
- ▶ **Poop-Scooping:** Dogs need to go outside to poop and pee. If you don't let your dog out enough it may have an accident in the house. It's important to scoop your dog's poop right away and put it in the garbage. **Always wash your hands really well** if you've scooped your dog's poop, even if your hands don't look dirty, and especially before you eat.

## Don't Get Bitten!

Dogs may bite if they are scared or angry, or sometimes because they think you want to play rough. There are a few ways to help make sure you don't get bitten by a dog:



- 🐕 Never go near a dog that you don't know, even if it looks friendly. Always ask the person with the dog if it's okay for you to pet it first.
- 🐕 Always let a dog sniff the back of your hand before trying to pet it.
- 🐕 Don't make loud noises or big, fast movements, or run around a dog.
- 🐕 Never bother a dog that is tied up, eating, sleeping or with puppies.
- 🐕 Don't wrestle or play rough with your dog.
- 🐕 If your dog growls or tries to get away from you, leave it alone for a while.

Bites from dogs and even little puppies can get badly infected, so if you do get bitten or scratched, tell an adult right away so they can help you clean the cut.

## Wash Your Hands!

Even if your dog is very clean, many dogs have germs in their poop and in their mouths that can make you sick. Don't touch your dog's bum (most of them don't like that!), and always wash your hands after playing with a dog. Don't let a dog lick your face or any cuts or scrapes you have.