# Expert Pack: K-9 Police Dogs: A Serious Job for Man’s Best Friend

Submitted by: Hampton Elementary, Milwaukee Public Schools, WI  
Grade: 3  
Date: July 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic/Subject</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-9 Police Dogs</td>
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</table>

## Texts/Resources

### Books
1. *AERO and Officer Mike: Police Partners* (out of print- some copies available online.)
2. *Dog Heroes*

### Infographic
3. “About Cincinnati Police Dogs”

### Websites/Articles
4. “When a Dog has a Serious Job to Do”
5. “Should Dogs Work?”
6. “Chief’s Message, November 2013: A Look Inside the K-9 Unit” (With video resources)
9. “CareerProfile Career and Job Search Guide: K-9 Officer”
10. “K-9 Handlers Receive Hands-on First Aid Training”
11. “Scholastic News: Japan’s Newest Police Dog”

Each expert pack contains a variety of selections grouped to create as coherent and gradual a learning process for students as possible, generally beginning with lower levels as measured by quantitative and qualitative measures, and moving to more complex levels in the latter selections. This gradated approach helps support students’ ability to read the next selection and to become ‘experts’ on the topic they are reading about. Refer to annotated bibliography on the following pages for the suggested sequence of readings.

## Rationale and suggested sequence for reading:

This Text Set begins with the read aloud text, *Aero and Officer Mike: Police Partners* which offers a glimpse into the relationship between police officer Mike and his K-9 partner, Aero. This informational text also describes that K-9s are actual police officers who wear ID Badges in addition to the capabilities of K-9s and the range of activities in which they assist. The second text, “Should Dogs Work?” offers a pros and cons view of placing dogs into K-9 police service. The passage is followed with several text-dependent questions to guide readers. “When a Dog has a Serious Job to Do” offers a glimpse into living with K-9, Kenny. The infographic, “About Cincinnati Police Dogs,” provides an inside look at the training process of police dogs that understand German commands. The “Chief’s Message, November 2013: A Look Inside the K-9 Unit” offers K-9 unit information, details about their training and a video presentation. Students are then directed online to, “How Stuff Works: Police Dogs.” This resource compares the scent receptors of human beings versus dogs and how beneficial this can be for K-9 Unit duties. The FBI information offers students a web-based activity to explore a variety of K-9 duties entitled, “About Our Dogs.” The next resource, *Hero Dogs* chapter 3 provides a detailed account of the terrorist attack of the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City (pages 43-53). Readers are then introduced to Omar Rivera and his guide dog Salty. Readers learn about the important work of Search and Rescue (SAR) dogs Jake, Ricky, Taz and Trakr. The complete text offers additional chapters addressing Search and Rescue dogs,
service dogs, famous dog heroes and more. The text includes a table of contents, additional sources for research and an index. The webpage, “Career Profile: K-9 Officer” offers information regarding the training and salary ranges of K-9 police officers. “K-9 Handlers Receive Hands-on First Aid Training” offers information how officers must receive specialized training to administer first-aid to their canine partners in Milwaukee. The “Scholastic News: Japan’s Newest Police Dog” introduces six-pound Chihuahua, “Momo.” This rescue dog could fit in your hand, but she’s no joke! Finally, students are invited to read the poem, “K-9 Memorial: “The Silent Car”” which underscores the deep relationship and grief officers feel for their fallen canine partners.

**The Common Core Shifts for ELA/Literacy:**

1. Regular practice with complex text and its academic language
2. Reading, writing and speaking grounded in evidence from text, both literary and informational
3. *Building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction*

Though use of these expert packs will enhance student proficiency with most or all of the Common Core Standards, they focus primarily on Shift 3, and the highlighted portions of the standards below.

**College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Reading Literary and/or Informational Texts (the darkened sections of the standards are the focus of the Expert Pack learning for students):**

1. *Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it*; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
2. *Determine central ideas or themes of a text* and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.
10. *Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently*

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**Annotated Bibliography and suggested sequence for reading**

**780L Aero and Officer Mike: Police Partners**

Author: Joan Russell

Genre: Informational text

Length: 32 pages

Synopsis: This text describes the relationship between police officer Mike and his K-9 partner, Aero. It also describes Aero’s skills necessary for police work.


Cost/Access: N/A but available in most public and school libraries. *This could be problematic as people wishing to use this text may not have access to a copy or multiple copies.*

Recommended Student Activities: Teacher read alouds and Wonderings.

**N/A “Should Dogs Work?”**

Author: N/A

Genre: Informational text
Length: 1 page

Synopsis: The site provides an inviting pros and cons view of placing dogs into police service. Following the reading, the site offers a few guiding questions. The site also suggests a paired text, “Officer Buckle and Gloria” which offers a humorous look at safety advice from a fictional K-9 Officer and his police dog.


Cost/Access: $0.00

Recommended Student Activities: Complete the questions included on the website

N/A  “When a Dog has a Serious Job to Do”

Author: Molly Snyder

Genre: Informational text/website

Length: 1 page

Synopsis: K-9 officer, Christina Marshall describes living and working with police dog, “Kenny.”


Cost/Access: $0.00

Recommended Student Activities: Wonderings

N/A  “About Cincinnati Police Dogs”

Author: Cincinnati Enquirer/Joseph Powell

Genre: Infographic

Length: 1 page

Synopsis: The chart offers bulleted information about police dogs that understand German commands.


Cost/Access: $0.00

Recommended Student Activities: Picture of Knowledge

N/A  “Chief’s Message, November 2013: A Look Inside the K-9 Unit”

Author: N/A
Genre: Informational text and video

Length: 1 page, video length: 12:27 minutes

Synopsis: The Salt Lake City Police Department K-9 Sgt. Eddie Cameron introduces public service dog, “Nacho” in this webpage and video message.


Cost/Access: $0.00

Recommended Student Activities: Picture of Knowledge

N/A “How Stuff Works: Police Dogs”

Genre: Informational text and video

Author: Ed Grabianowski

Length: 6 pages and online video

Synopsis: This online resource compares the scent receptors of humans to dogs and how beneficial this can be for K-9 Unit duties especially for Search and Rescue detail.


Cost/Access: $0.00

Recommended Student Activities: Picture of Knowledge

N/A About Our Dogs

Genre: Informational text/online activity

Author: N/A

Length: 1 page

Synopsis: This FBI website offers an engaging way for students to read information on the many roles of police dogs.


Cost/Access: $0.00

Recommended Student Activities: Interactive website

770L “Dog Heroes”
Authors: Natalie Pope Boyce and Mary Pope Osborne

Genre: Informational text

Length: 119 pages

Synopsis: Chapter 3 provides a detailed account of the terrorist attack of the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City (pages 43-53). Readers are introduced to Omar Rivera and his guide dog Salty. Readers learn about the important work of Search and Rescue (SAR) dogs Jake, Ricky, Taz and Trakr. The complete text offers additional chapters addressing Search and Rescue dogs, service dogs, famous dog heroes and more. The text includes a table of contents, additional sources for research and an index.


Cost/Access: $5.99 (paperback)

Recommended Student Activities: Quiz Maker

N/A “Career Profile: K-9 Officer a Job with a Bite”

Genre: Informational text /website

Author: N/A

Length: 1 page

Synopsis: The website offers information regarding the training and salary ranges of K-9 police officers.


Cost/Access: $0.00

Recommended Student Activities: Pop Quiz

N/A “K-9 Handlers Receive Hands-on First Aid Training Career”

Genre: Informational text and video/website

Author: N/A

Length: 1 page

Synopsis: The website offers information about how officers must receive specialized training to administer first-aid to their canine partners in Milwaukee.


Cost/Access: $0.00

Recommended Student Activities:
N/A “Scholastic News: Japan's Newest Police Dog”

Genre: Informational text

Author: Zach Jones

Length: 1 page

Synopsis: The “Scholastic News: Japan's Newest Police Dog” introduces six-pound Chihuahua, “Momo.” This rescue dog could fit in your hand, but she’s no joke! Readers learn the small size of the breed is ideal for getting into small spaces.


Cost/Access: $0.00

Recommended Student Activities:

N/A “K-9 Memorial: “The Silent Car””

Genre: Poetry

Author: N/A

Length: 1 page

Synopsis: This website features memorials to fallen police dogs. The last entry is a poem, “The Silent Car” which underscores the relationship of police officer to police dog [there is a name and date listed, but it is not readable when enlarged].

Citation: Milwaukee County House of Correction Unit 1: K9 Unit Memorial. (N.D.). Retrieved May 3, 2015, from http://county.milwaukee.gov/HOC/HuberEMU-Information/K-9-Unit/K-9-Unit-Memorial.htm

Cost/Access: $0.00

Recommended Student Activities:
Supports for Struggling Students

By design, the **gradation of complexity** within each Expert Pack is a technique that provides struggling readers the opportunity to read more complex texts. Listed below are other measures of support that can be used when necessary.

- Provide a brief **student-friendly glossary** of some of the academic vocabulary (tier 2) and domain vocabulary (tier 3) essential to understanding the text.
- Download the Wordsmyth widget to classroom computers/tablets for students to access student-friendly definitions for unknown words. [http://www.wordsmyth.net/?mode=widget](http://www.wordsmyth.net/?mode=widget)
- Provide brief **student friendly explanations** of necessary background knowledge.
- Include **pictures or videos** related to the topic within and in addition to the set of resources in the pack.
- Select a small number of texts to **read aloud** with some discussion about vocabulary work and background knowledge.
- Provide **audio recordings** of the texts being read by a strong reader (teacher, parent, etc.).
- **Chunk the text** and provide brief questions for each chunk of text to be answered *before* students go on to the next chunk of text.
- Pre-reading activities that focus on the **structure and graphic elements** of the text.
- Provide **volunteer helpers** from the school community during independent reading time.

**Why Text Sets Support English Language Learners**

Those acquiring English as a second language have to learn many words in English to catch up with their English-only peers. Vocabulary builds at a much quicker pace when reading a set of connected texts. Text sets are an adaptable resource perfect for building knowledge and vocabulary. Student use of text sets can vary in terms of independence or teacher supports based on the individual needs of the students in the room. Activities found within the text set resources reflect several best practices for English Language Learner instruction including:

- Providing brief, engaging texts that provide a high volume of reading on a topic.
- Providing web-based resources and/or videos that are tied to the content of the texts students are reading.
- Providing opportunities for students to learn new vocabulary through the use of student-friendly definitions in resource-specific glossaries.
- Allowing for options to reinforce newly learned vocabulary and/or content through graphic organizers.
- Providing opportunities for students to reinforce new vocabulary through multi-modal activities including written work, group discussion, viewing visual content, and reading texts that feature the vocabulary.

Teachers of ELLs may use the protocols on the following pages to provide additional support to students who are struggling to access the content within text sets because they are new to English.
The goal of text sets is to help students build knowledge through a volume of independent reading, and it is important that educators provide scaffolds to allow English Language Learners to be successful in engaging meaningfully with the texts, even as students are still developing English language skills. The protocol below can be used for teaching with text set resources as a full class. Students can also be trained on the protocol so that they can utilize text sets in small groups or partnerships as a resource for independent or reciprocal reading and study.

Please note that this protocol includes options for teachers. Individual decisions should be made considering the needs of the students and the demands of the content, keeping in mind that the goal of each scaffold is to allow students to meaningfully access the text and move toward independent, knowledge-building reading.

**Step one: Build knowledge and vocabulary.**

Introduce students to the overall topic/content of the text set, including knowledge demands needed to engage in the content, and domain-specific vocabulary necessary for comprehension. This should be done prior to engaging with the texts themselves; time allotted to this activity should reflect student needs (anywhere from 5 minutes prior to reading, to a full day’s lesson is appropriate).

*Options for this step include:*
- Engage students in reading and discussing auxiliary texts (of lesser complexity) and resources (illustrations, photographs, video clips) on the topic of the text set.
- Pre-teach a few key content-specific terms prior to students engaging with a text set. (Ideas for text-focused vocabulary instruction can be found here.)
- Provide the student-friendly glossary included in the text set prior to reading each text.
- When possible, allow students to read texts in their home language about the topic under study.

**Step two: Read text orally.**

Focusing on one resource at a time, allow students to listen to a fluent read of the resource, while following along with their own copy of the text.

*Options for this step include:*
- Have a fluent reader model the first read of a text or resource.
- Have students engage in a buddy/partner read.
- Use recordings of the text to provide additional opportunities to hear expert reading.

**Step three: Engage in group discussion about the content.**

Allow students time in partnerships or small groups to discuss the content of the resource.

*Options for this step include:*
- Allow for discussion/conversation (in the students’ home language if possible) with a small group of students reading the same text set prior to writing or provide heterogeneous language groupings to talk about content and discuss what students are learning.
- Have students refer to the student-friendly glossary included with each text set to identify meanings for new vocabulary necessary for comprehension.

**Step four: Write about what was read.**

*Options for this step include:*
- Use the “Rolling Knowledge Journal” and/or “Rolling Vocabulary Journal” as a shared writing routine/graphic organizer to help to scaffold the writing process and capture student knowledge over time.
• Provide students with several supports to help students engage in writing/drawing about what they read:
  - Use mentor texts about which students can pattern their writing.
  - Allow them to write collaboratively.
  - Show students visual resources as prompts, etc.
  - Provide language supports such as strategically chosen sentence starters.

Repeat steps one through four with each resource in the text set as appropriate.
Text Complexity Guide
Aero and Officer Mike by Joan Plummer Russell

1. Quantitative Measure
   Go to http://www.lexile.com/ and enter the title of the text in the Quick Book Search in the upper right of home page. Most texts will have a Lexile measure in this database. You can also copy and paste a selection of text using the Lexile analyzer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Band</th>
<th>Lexile Measure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-3 band</td>
<td>420 - 820L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-5 band</td>
<td>740 - 1010L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-8 band</td>
<td>925 - 1185L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-10 band</td>
<td>1050 – 1335L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 – CCR</td>
<td>1185 - 1385L</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2. Qualitative Features
   Consider the four dimensions of text complexity below. For each dimension*, note specific examples from the text that make it more or less complex.

   Meaning/Purpose: The text describes the unique relationship between the officer and his K-9 partner. The text states, “They work together. They practice together. They live with Officer Mike’s wife and daughter, a cat named Tarzan, and a Chihuahua named Zeus.” The end of the text describes how Aero will follow Officer Mike when he takes a shower and even sleeps on the floor next to his bed! The charm of these details will hook readers!

   Structure: The text adds to the complexity of this informational text. It describes more than a day in Aero’s life. The organization includes training, ongoing SWAT practice, the long days and signals and commands Officer Mike uses (even in Czech!), veterinarian visits and working community outreach. The text features and high-quality pictures enhance understanding, but do not solely tell the story.

   Language: The language demands include both Tier 2 and Tier 3 vocabulary. The Tools for the Job section offers students a pictorial reference section to enhance understanding of some of the vocabulary and topics addressed by the text. The text includes lengthy sentences often including direct quotes or commands in quotations.

   Knowledge Demands: Students may be acquainted with pets and the habits of canines. However, this text connects this prior knowledge and expands on it by introducing the capabilities and training needed to perform as police dogs. Students may be surprised to learn police dogs have fully issued badges and live with their work partners.

3. Reader and Task Considerations
   What will challenge students most in this text? What supports can be provided?
   - The broad organization may overwhelm challenged readers. A read aloud will assist learners to gain the gist of each section of the book.
   - Some of the contents could confuse readers. Use pictures to encourage discussions (i.e. the water dish built into the police car).
   - Teacher may need to pose text-dependent questions to further student understanding of various complex ideas in the text.
   - Some advanced students may feel limited by reading about only Aero initially. Teachers might create opportunities for students to research their own K-9 units in their communities.
Learning Worth Remembering

**Cumulative Activities** – The following activities should be completed and updated after reading each resource in the set. The purpose of these activities is to capture knowledge building from one resource to the next, and to provide a holistic snapshot of central ideas of the content covered in the expert pack. *It is recommended that students are required to complete one of the Cumulative Activities (Rolling Knowledge Journal or Rolling Vocabulary) for this Expert Pack.*

1. **Rolling Knowledge Journal**
   1. Read each selection in the set, one at a time.
   2. After you read each resource, stop and think what the big learning was. What did you learn that was new and important about the topic from this resource? Write, draw, or list what you learned from the text about (topic).
   3. Then write, draw, or list how this new resource added to what you learned from the last resource(s).

**Sample Student Response**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Write, Draw, or List</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>New and important learning about the topic</strong></td>
<td><strong>How does this resource add to what I learned already?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Aero and Officer Mike: Police Partners</strong></td>
<td>Aero is a very skilled K-9. He is trained to fight crime and to use his strong nose to sniff out drugs. He wears a badge and works with his partner all day and goes home with him at night.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. “Should Dogs Work?”</strong></td>
<td>Police and service dogs face dangerous situations. Search and Rescue dogs do work people can’t. People have different views if they should be used for service and not just as pets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. “When a Dog has a Serious Job to Do”</strong></td>
<td>Officer Marshall works with her K-9 partner, Kenny. Kenny is very good at locating guns, drugs and bombs. Once he sniffed out 64 pounds of drugs located in coolers. At first, Officer Marshall thought he was smelling hot dogs or other food in the cooler!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. “About Cincinnati Police Dogs”</td>
<td>The Cincinnati Police Department added 14 new German Shepherds and they understand only German commands! They are a little smaller than U.S. German Shepherds. The K-9 dogs must get used to working around people and groups.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. “Chief’s Message, November 2013: A Look Inside the K-9 Unit”</td>
<td>The Salt Lake City police officers tell us that dogs with strong smelling ability can find criminals up to 30 feet away before humans can. Officer Cameron works with his dog Nacho. He explains his goal for Nacho is not to train him to be vicious, but to obey his commands in fighting crime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. “How Stuff Works: Police Dogs”</td>
<td>Dogs have worked with humans for thousands of years. A dog’s sense of smell is almost 50 times more sensitive than a human’s. They have 200 smell receptors cells in their noses. In New York, police dog Breston kept $3,400,000 worth of drugs off the streets. Breston understands Dutch commands. Breston has a bullet-proof vest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. “About Our Dogs”</td>
<td>Dogs work for the FBI to keep the United States safe. The police officer or FBI Agent (handler) works with his or her dog as a team. Dogs provide many services. One of the newest working dogs is Hannah. She can search out bombs, explosion debris, firearms and ammunition. Search and Rescue dogs can even sniff out people underground and even underwater!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Dog Heroes</td>
<td>In Chapter 3, there was a lot of information about the bombing of the twin towers of the World Trade Center. Dogs played an important role in the Search and Rescue. Dogs were even hoisted over the ruins and some had to wear booties to protect their paws. Trakr located a woman who was trapped for 26 hours! Some of the dogs were stressed from not locating any survivors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
and many were treated for breathing smoke and dehydration. On and played games with them to raise their spirits.

9. “Career Profile: K-9 Officer a Job with a Bite”  
To become a K-9 officer, you must first complete a criminal justice degree, get hired and receive specialized K-9 training. Although many cities have K-9 units, there are limited jobs. K-9 officers usually are on-call 24 hours a day and must be available at a moment’s notice. The main duties include:

- Discover illicit drugs, explosives, chemicals and other illegal substances
- Find and rescue individuals that are missing or have been kidnapped
- Track and apprehend fugitives fleeing from the law
- Discover cadavers that have been buried or left in the wilderness
- Locate evidence from crime scenes
- Inspect vehicles
- Deter criminals who might otherwise confront or assault a police officer
- Identify people who have been carrying or have been in contact with illegal drugs and controlled substances

K-9 police officer salaries average $56,000 a year.

To become a K-9 officer takes many years of schooling, dedication to ongoing training, and competing for limited number of positions. I learned that although many of the tasks K-9 officers perform are exciting, some are somewhat boring and the hours long (inspecting prisons or sniffing lockers). There are other career choices that make more money for 24 on-call service.

It seems to me the biggest reward of being a K-9 officer is to work with a dog!

10. “K-9 Handlers Receive Hands-on First Aid Training Career”  
K-9 officers, referred to as handlers, learn first aid for their canine partners. Police dogs face dangerous situations such as bleeding, poison, or even heart issues. CPR was taught using stuffed animals. The reporter tells us it is okay to give aspirin to police dogs if the dog needs it.

I am learning that police dogs and their police officer partners protect each other in many dangerous situations. Training for handlers is necessary for the immediate first aid of police dogs who get hurt.

11. “Scholastic News: Japan’s Newest Police Dog”  
Momo is a 6-pound Chihuahua joining one of Nara, Japan’s Police Departments. Momo (meaning “peach”) can get into small places to locate people trapped by disasters such as big title wave storms called tsunamis and earthquakes. Momo passed her Police Academy training in only 5 minutes!

I am learning that not only large dogs are used as police dogs, but small Chihuahuas are valuable too! I’m thinking Momo may not run as fast as German Shepherd, Aero, but could squeeze and wiggle into tiny spaces after a tsunami to find people who are trapped.
12. **“K-9 Memorial: “The Silent Car””**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The K-9 police officer, who wrote this memorial, appreciated his partner. The memorial shows what a strong bond the officer felt as they grew, worked and cared for the valued police dog partner.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Officer Mike from the first text has a strong partnership with K-9 Aero. Since police officers depend and love their dogs, they sometimes create memorials or statues for their partners when they die. The memorial further explains the strong relationship the police officer had with their K-9 partner and the loss they are feeling.</td>
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<tr>
<td>To read this makes me a little sad but I think how lucky the police officer was to work with a brave dog! They were true friends.</td>
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2. **Rolling Vocabulary: “Sensational Six”**

- Read each resource then determine the 6 words from each text that most exemplify the central idea of the text.
- Next use your 6 words to write about the most important idea of the text. You should have as many sentences as you do words.
- Continue this activity with EACH selection in the Expert Pack.
- After reading all the selections in the Expert Pack, go back and review your words.
- Now select the “Sensational Six” words from ALL the word lists.
- Use the “Sensational Six” words to summarize the most important learning from this Expert Pack.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Six Vocabulary Words &amp; Sentences</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aero and Officer Mike: Police Partners</strong></td>
<td>partnership, dispatcher, hand signals, training, sniff, veterinarian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officer Mike and Aero have a strong <strong>partnership</strong> in fighting crime and keeping each other safe. As calls come into the station, a <strong>dispatcher</strong> schedules a police officer to report to the scene. K-9s respond to <strong>hand signals</strong> and voice commands. Aero and Mike have ongoing <strong>training</strong> to stay good at what they do. Aero can <strong>sniff</strong> and find lost children, drugs and explosives! Aero visits the <strong>veterinarian</strong> for check-ups to stay healthy.</td>
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| **“Should Dogs Work?”** | debate, criminals, stressful, life and death situations, vicious, servant |
| This article **debates** if dogs should be used as helpers to humans. Too many student **criminals** steal cars from our neighborhood. Police dogs can help with dangerous and **stressful** situations. Police dogs face serious **life and death situations** in their work fighting crime. Police dogs may be **vicious** and scary when they work, but at home are gentle house pets. Police dogs are **servants** to the law. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>“When a Dog has a Serious Job to Do”</strong></th>
<th>pooch, adrenaline raising situations, narcotics, sniff, retrofitted, perturbed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Officer Marshall works with her *pooch*, her German Shepherd named Kenny. Some dangerous police work can be considered *adrenaline*-raising situations. *Narcotics* can be very dangerous drugs when used incorrectly. Some police dogs are trained to *sniff* and locate drugs. Police vehicles are *retrofitted* with different windows so dogs do not overheat. Officer Marshall initially was *perturbed* with Kenny as he sniffed the cooler.

### “About Cincinnati Police Dogs”

**canine, breeders, handlers, commands, socialized, rough-house**

I’ve enjoyed learning about police dogs and *canine* units. Many police dogs come from *breeders* not located in the USA. When police dogs are trained, they listen to the directions of their *handlers*. Silent *hand signals* and short commands are used to train dogs. Police dogs must be *socialized* to work with crowds and different kinds of people. Rowdy “*rough-house*” play is not allowed near police dogs.

### “Chief’s Message, November 2013: A Look Inside the K-9 Unit”

**competition, suspects, positive reinforcement, disposition, flee, felony**

There is a *competition* where police dogs showcase their skills. There were three *suspects* in the car theft. Using a treat as a reward when training a dog is called a *positive reinforcement*. A dog with a good *disposition* makes the best kind of police dog who interacts with humans. The witness saw the suspects *flee* just before the police arrived. If you have a *felony* on your police record, you are unable to vote.

### “How Stuff Works: Police Dogs”

**companions, scent, aggressive, exemplary record, endurance training, drug sweeps**

Grandma thought the dog would make a fine *companion* for the lonely boy. Every human has a *scent* which aids police dogs in tracking them. Police dogs practice *aggressive* behaviors to help them catch criminals. Many police dogs have *exemplary record* at catching criminals and sniffing for drugs. *Endurance training* is essential for police dogs working long hours. The principal suspected a student had illegal drugs in their locker so she ordered a *drug sweep*.

### “About Our Dogs”

**Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), navigate, brush, rubble, detection, scent**

The *FBI* agent used multiple disguises to conceal his identity. Police dogs are trained to *navigate* through fallen buildings to rescue humans. The dog sled had difficulty making the journey because *brush* had covered part of the course. Following the earthquake, the streets were covered by *rubble*. A Search and Rescue helped with the *detection* of survivors following the tornado. The dog memorized the *scent* of the lost girl from merely sniffing her winter hat.

### Dog Heroes

**huddled, debris, ruins, Search and Rescue (SAR), 12-hour shift, exhaustion**

Rescue officers *huddled* closely together to support each other during the search and rescue. The dust and *debris* littered the streets following the disaster at the Twin Towers. The Twin Towers were in *ruins* after the plane flew into them making the rescue difficult. *Search and Rescue* dogs can locate survivors hours after a disaster occurs. Police dogs worked a *12-hour shift* to find buried humans.
Despite their exhaustion, the police dogs and officers pushed on to rescue humans buried alive.

**“Career Profile: K-9 Officer a Job with a Bite”**

**Criminal Justice degree, cadaver, fugitive, police academy, decoy, salary**

Earning a Criminal Justice degree is the first step in becoming a K-9 officer. Search and Rescue dogs sometimes find cadavers and not living survivors. Wanted fugitives running from crimes sometimes leave the country. Police officers must go through specialized training at the Police Academy. Sometimes officers wanting to observe K-9 trainings volunteer as criminal decoys. Dad brings home a paycheck every two weeks based on his annual salary.

**“K-9 Handlers Receive Hands-on First Aid Training Career”**

**First aid, demonstrate, CPR compressions, dehydrated, heart rate, “A wealth of information”**

Police officers are trained to give first aid to police dogs if they are hurt. The officer demonstrated complete calm as the citizens yelled. To revive the dog, the officer gave CPR Compressions at a rate of 100 compressions per minute. Search and Rescue dogs can experience dehydration if working long hours without water. Most dogs while resting have a heart rate of between 60 and 160 beats per minute. The librarian was a wealth of information to the children wanting to research police dogs.

**“Scholastic News: Japan’s Newest Police Dog”**

**Chihuahua, “Work to her Advantage”, natural disasters, wreckage, tsunami, graduate**

The brown and white Chihuahua was named Momo, which means “peach.” The police dog’s ability to squeeze into small places worked to her advantage to sniff out drugs. The National Weather Service helps alert citizens of natural disasters and other weather-related events. The sunken ship’s wreckage was located only a few yards off shore. A loud horn blares to warn the islanders of the approaching tsunami. The students will graduate from police academy June 5th.

**“K-9 Memorial: “The Silent Car””**

**dignity, grace, grieve, silence, friend, matured**

She showed her dignity and held her head high. The king walked with grace. We grieve the passing of the soldier we met. We bowed our heads in a moment of silence. I never expected my dog to be my friend. The height of a mature oak tree can be over one hundred feet.

**Sensational Six**

**partnership, life and death situations, sniff, Search and Rescue (SAR), wreckage, friend**

**Summary:**

A K-9 officer forges a life-long partnership with his police dog. Together they live, work and face dangerous life and death situations in fighting crime and maintaining safety. Police dogs have incredible skills to sniff out suspects, guns, drugs and explosives. Some police dogs specialize in Search and Rescue (SAR) to locate people.
trapped under **wreckage** caused by disasters. The SAR dogs are invaluable since they can use their noses to detect persons well before their human partner.

Sadly, I’ve learned that police dogs have died while doing police work. Many cities have memorials for these heroes. Most police dogs however, retire to the homes of their partners to enjoy their remaining years with their partner and **friend**.

**Learning Worth Remembering**

**Singular Activities** – the following activities can be assigned for each resource in the set. The purpose of these activities is to check for understanding, capture knowledge gained, and provide variety of ways for students to interact with each individual resource. Students may complete some or none of the suggested singular activities for each text. Singular activities should be assigned at the discretion of the teacher.

1. **A Picture of Knowledge** Recommended for “About Cincinnati Police Dogs” and “How Stuff Works: Police Dogs” and “Chief’s Message, November 2013: A Look Inside the K-9 Unit”
   - Take a piece of paper and fold it two times: once across and once top to bottom so that it is divided into 4 quadrants.
   - Draw these shapes in the corner of each quadrant.
   - Write!
     - Square: What one thing did you read that was interesting to you?
     - Triangle: What one thing did you read that taught you something new?
2. **Quiz Maker** (Recommended for *Dog Heroes*)
   - Make a list of # questions that would make sure another student understood the information.
   - Your classmates should be able to find the answer to the question from the resource.
   - Include answers for each question.
   - Include the where you can find the answer in the resource.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. What is the difference between police dogs and (Search and Rescue) SAR dogs?</td>
<td>SAR dogs have specialized training to locate people trapped by disasters. They sniff out people or bodies that officers can’t locate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. At the twin towers at the World Trading Center, dogs worked long hours. Why?</td>
<td>SAR dogs were hunting for days to locate people – hopefully alive. A lady was found alive 26 hours after the disaster!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Why were dogs disappointed at the twin towers?</td>
<td>They continued working but were not finding people alive.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. **Wonderings** (Recommended for *Aero and Officer Mike: Police Partners* and “When a Dog has a Serious Job to Do“)
   On the left, track things you don’t understand from the article as you read.
   On the right side, list some things you still wonder (or wonder now) about this *topic*. 
4. **Pop Quiz** (Recommended for “Career Profile: K-9 Officer a Job with a Bite”)

Answer the following questions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Possible Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. If you wanted to become a K-9 officer, what are some steps you might take?</td>
<td>Earn a Criminal Justice degree, apply to become a police officer, attend Police Academy, let my supervisors know I’m interested in K-9 work, volunteer as a suspect decoy during K-9 training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. What is the most exciting part of K-9 officer work you read about?</td>
<td>I like the idea of working with border patrols rather than merely patrolling the city. I think the thrill of catching drug smugglers or others would be more exciting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. What is the average salary for K-9 officers?</td>
<td>It is about $54,000 per year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Based on your reading, what wouldn’t you enjoy as a K-9 officer?</td>
<td>Although I would enjoy the dog with me, It would be difficult to be on call for duty 24 hours a day all the time.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Expert Pack: K-9 Police Dogs: A Serious Job for Man’s Best Friend

Submitted by: Hampton Elementary, Milwaukee Public Schools, WI
Grade: 3 Date: July 2015

Expert Pack Glossary

**Aero and Officer Mike: Police Partners**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Student-Friendly Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partnership</td>
<td>Means a relationship based on a shared goal. Aero and Officer Mike have a relationship with the shared goal of fighting crime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remote control</td>
<td>The control of a machine from a distance. For example, the television was switched on using the remote control. Officer Mike is able to open his car windows using a remote to allow Aero to work the crime scene.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dispatcher</td>
<td>A person who sends people to a place for a reason. Officer Mike and Aero are sent to crime scenes by a dispatcher.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back up</td>
<td>When a second officer is called to help on the scene of a crime, they are called the back up officer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand signals</td>
<td>These are silent hand and arm signals used when working with a police dog. These hand motions help tell the dog what to do without using words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiver</td>
<td>To shake. Her chin quivered as the tears came down. Aero’s legs quivered as he learned to walk across the metal sidewalk grate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hostages</td>
<td>Someone held prisoner by a person or group trying to force another person or group to meet certain demands. A hostage is held captive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinarian</td>
<td>A doctor for animals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leather collar</td>
<td>Police dog Aero wears a collar around his neck. His collar holds his police badge. This is Aero’s uniform.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**“Should Dogs Work?”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Debate</td>
<td>A discussion between two people or groups who disagree on an important subject. The debate in Congress lasted two days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminals</td>
<td>A person who has committed a crime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stressful</td>
<td>To describe something causing stress. His job as a police officer gives him a lot of stress. She is under a lot of stress at work.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Life-and-death situations**

A serious event in which someone may die. This sometimes refers to a very serious matter.

**Vicious**

Likely to be cruel or violent. Stay away from the vicious dog.

**Servant**

Frequently refers to a person whose job is to clean another person's house, cook their food, or help them in other ways in their home.

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**“When a Dog has a Serious Job to Do”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pooch</td>
<td>Means a dog.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adrenaline-raising situations</td>
<td>Situations that make the human body feel stress or anxiety. The body makes adrenaline to signal danger.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narcotics</td>
<td>A drug that causes a person to become sleepy or unconscious and that may be used as a medicine to dull pain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sniff</td>
<td>To smell an odor with short breaths through the nose. The dog sniffed at the trail of the rabbit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retrofitted</td>
<td>To change the design of something to make it better. Officer Mike’s car was retrofitted with wood and a dog bowl for Aero.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perturb</td>
<td>To cause worry. Sometimes refers to a person feeling annoyed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**“About Cincinnati Police Dogs”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canine</td>
<td>An animal of the dog family. Sometimes refers to dogs or animals related to dogs, such as wolves, foxes and coyotes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breeders</td>
<td>A person who reproduces plants or animals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handlers</td>
<td>A person who trains animals, especially dogs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commands</td>
<td>These are silent hand and arm signals used when working with a police dog.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Socialized

To train to fit in. For example, police dogs work on fitting in when not on duty.

“Chief’s Message, November 2013: A Look Inside the K-9 Unit”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Competition</td>
<td>A contest or game. Those two boys are in competition for first place.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suspects</td>
<td>A person who is accused of doing something wrong. She is a suspect in the robbery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive reinforcement</td>
<td>Something that supports good behavior. Aero received positive reinforcement when performing tasks well.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposition</td>
<td>Mood or attitude. She has a sunny disposition — which means she seems happy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flee</td>
<td>To run away or escape. The burglar fled when he heard the dog bark.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felony</td>
<td>A serious crime such as murder or robbery. If someone kills a police dog it is a felony and punishable up to five years in jail.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“How Stuff Works: Police Dogs”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Companions</td>
<td>One who spends time with another or others. The puppy made an excellent companion for the young man.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensitive</td>
<td>Able to smell, hear, taste, feel, or see very well. A dog's nose is very sensitive to smell. Also refers to being highly aware or feeling things strongly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scent</td>
<td>The smell given off by a person or animal. Dogs traced the scent of the lost child. May also refer to a lovely fragrance. The roses had a lovely scent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggressive</td>
<td>Mean and unfriendly actions; ready to argue and start fights. He has a hard time getting along with others because of his aggressive nature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passive</td>
<td>To offer no resistance. He remained passive and didn’t do anything when the bully hit him.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Exemplary record | One’s admirable or excellent history. The student had an exemplary attendance record of 100 percent.
--- | ---
Endurance training | To develop the ability to go on even when it’s really tough. Endurance training is needed to run a marathon. Endurance training is needed by Search and Rescue (SAR) dogs to work long hours.
Ambush | A surprise attack made from a hidden place. The soldiers stopped the enemy with an ambush at dawn.
Rin Tin Tin | Rin Tin Tin (September 1918 – August 10, 1932) was a male German Shepherd rescued from a World War I battlefield by an American soldier, Lee Duncan. The dog later became an American television star of the children’s show, “The Adventures of Rin Tin Tin.”

**“About Our Dogs”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FBI</td>
<td>Stands for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This group protects and defends the United States. The agency has more than 35,000 employees including special agents and scientists.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navigate</td>
<td>To walk or move through land or water. The joggers navigated the long and winding path. Sometimes this means to move through a website or document.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brush</td>
<td>Land covered by thick growth of plants or trees. It can also mean a slight touch. We had a brush with danger.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubble</td>
<td>Pieces of broken rock, brick, or other material. After the explosion, the streets were filled with rubble.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detection</td>
<td>To find. The dog’s excellent ability to smell assists him with detection of bombs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scent</td>
<td>Odors that dogs can sniff. Dogs have 44 times the smelling strength than humans and can sniff-out scents – even underground and underwater!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dog Heroes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Huddled</td>
<td>To gather in a small, close group. He huddled his family in the doorway out of the rain. The team huddled closely together to plan their next play.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Debris | Scattered pieces left after something has been destroyed. A pile of debris was all that was left after the fire.
---|---
Ruins | Complete destruction. After the flood, the house was in ruins. Sometimes this means remains of a building, city, etc., that has been destroyed or is in disrepair or a state of decay. We visited the ruins of ancient Greece.
SAR dogs | This is an abbreviation for the words Search and Rescue dogs. These are dogs trained to find people trapped by disasters.
12-hour shift | A long time at work; twelve hours. The workers were very tired as they completed a 12-hour shift.
Exhaustion | Means complete loss of energy. Exhaustion kept the singer from finishing her world tour.

“Career Profile: K-9 Officer a Job with a Bite”

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminal justice degree</td>
<td>Typically this is the college degree a person must earn to apply to work as a police officer. The time to earn this degree varies from 1½ to 6 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadavers</td>
<td>A dead person’s body. Some Search and Rescue dogs (SAR) can locate cadavers under brick and underwater.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fugitive</td>
<td>A person who is escaping or running away. The police finally caught the fugitive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police academy</td>
<td>After earning a criminal justice degree and getting hired, new police officers attend police academy to learn more.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperament (i.e. the right temperament for the job)</td>
<td>Some jobs require people to have special skills or habits. Police work requires long hours and the ability to work in many situations. He has the right temperament for the job.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salary</td>
<td>A fixed amount of money paid at regular times for the work a person has done. My father is paid his salary every two weeks.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“K-9 Handlers Receive Hands-on First Aid Training”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Aid</td>
<td>Emergency medical help given to a hurt or sick person while waiting for a doctor. The ambulance driver gave the patient first aid.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Demonstrate: To explain or describe, especially by showing many examples. The dance teacher demonstrated the jumps she wanted us to learn.

CPR Compression: A way of reviving victims' hearts by breathing into the mouth and applying strong, rhythmic pressure to the chest (compressions). CPR is an abbreviation for "cardiopulmonary resuscitation." CPR works on both humans and animals. On average, a dog's heart beats 100 times per minute.

Dehydrated: To lose water; dry out. The body becomes dehydrated quickly during exercise or work in hot weather or dry and dusty conditions.

Heart rate: The number of times the heart beats in one minute, especially as a measure of how hard the heart is working during physical exercise or emotional stress; pulse. Most adult dogs have a heart rate of 60 to 160 beats per minute, depending on what they are doing.

A wealth of information: A great knowledge or facts that come from a source. Jack loved sports so much that he was a wealth of information for the new baseball team!

“Scholastic News: Japan's Newest Police Dog”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chihuahua</td>
<td>A small, usually short-haired Mexican breed of dog that dates from Aztec times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size will “work to her advantage”</td>
<td>A phrase which means to a favorable for that person/animal. Momo’s small size will work to her advantage as she can get into small spaces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural disasters</td>
<td>Meaning weather events that may cause death and destruction of property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wreckage</td>
<td>What is left after something has been ruined or destroyed. Workers cleared the road of wreckage from the accident.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tsunamis</td>
<td>A natural disaster from a very large, destructive sea wave caused by a marine earthquake or volcanic explosion. The islanders rebuilt their homes following the tsunamis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>Usually refers to someone who is finished studying at high school or college or training course. She is a graduate of Harvard University.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
"K-9 Memorial: “The Silent Car”"

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Word</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dignity</td>
<td>One's sense of worth shown in one's appearance or behavior. She showed her dignity in the way she handled her troubles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace</td>
<td>The habit of doing what is kind, right, or polite; manners. Martha had the grace not to point out his mistake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grieve</td>
<td>To feel great sadness. Grandmother grieved over the loss of her husband.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silence</td>
<td>Quiet. The teacher asked for silence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friend</td>
<td>One you know well and like and who likes you. Sheila and I have been friends since kindergarten.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>