

## The AKC Canine Club

### About

The AKC Canine Club is a club for dog lovers to include students who own a dog, have an interest in owning a dog, or just love dogs in general. This club teaches students about responsible dog ownership, training, canine science, canine jobs and more. Materials and curriculum are sponsored by the American Kennel Club.

You can find experts to speak to your group by utilizing the Canine Ambassador Directory here: <https://www.akc.org/public-education/canine-ambassador-program/finding-canine-ambassador/>.

### Lesson Outline

#### **Month 1: Intro to the AKC Canine Club**

This meeting will cover expectations of the club, what students will learn and how students will participate. Students will have the opportunity to share their own interests. Students will also learn how to properly greet a dog and safety tips for how to encounter a dog that is loose. A guest speaker and his/her dog will be invited for a demonstration and practice.

#### **Month 2: Responsible Dog Ownership**

Students will learn how to be a responsible dog owner. Topics covered will include healthy food for dogs, the importance of exercise and training, providing a safe shelter and more. Guest speakers will be invited to discuss responsible dog ownership with dogs.

#### **Month 3: Careers in Dogs**

Students will learn about the many careers for those who love dogs. Careers such as groomer, professional handler, dog trainer, veterinarian and dog walker. Guest speakers will be invited to discuss their jobs with the students.

#### **Month 4: Dog Shows & Events**

Students will learn about the many events available for owners and their dogs. Examples include conformation, obedience, trick dog and agility. We will discuss types of events, how to get involved and how they benefit the relationship between people and dogs. A guest speaker will be invited to discuss their experience with dog shows and to host a demonstration.

#### **Month 5: Dog Training**

Students will learn about the importance of dog training. We will review the types of training dogs can receive and how they can use this training to win titles. A dog trainer will be invited to speak to the students about this important topic.

**Month 6: Dogs with Jobs**

Students will learn about the types of jobs dogs can do. Some examples are police dogs, military dogs and therapy dogs.

**Month 7: Choosing a Dog**

This is a great lesson for students who are thinking of getting a dog. We will cover topics such as choosing the right dog for your family and a dog is forever.

**Month 8: Field Trip**

Students will take a field trip to a dog event. If a field trip isn't possible, you can video conference with a Junior, Judge, Handler, Groomer or Trainer. Please contact AKC Public Education for help at [publiced@akc.org](mailto:publiced@akc.org).

**Month 9: Dog Project**

Students will create a hands-on project to review everything they have learned.

**Month 10: Celebration**

Students will present their projects and enjoy a Canine Club celebration.