



# AKC KIDS' NEWS

September 2020 Issue 3, Number 3



## CONFORMATION SHOWDOWN

**Conformation is one of the oldest dog sports. While dogs may look like they are in a beauty pageant, they are not.**

**They are being compared to their written **breed standard**. The dog that looks closet to the breed standard will be chosen as the winner.**

**Dogs start competing against their same breed and if they win, they move on the compete against dogs in their group, and then on to Best in Show!**



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**breed standard:** how closely a dog looks and acts like their breed

## AKC SPORTS: ROAD TO BEST IN SHOW

Meet Siba, the 3 year old Standard Poodle who is the most recent winner of the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show.



**"SIBA FUELED HER BEST IN SHOW WIN WITH A FAST-FOOD CHICKEN SANDWICH BEFORE ENTERING THE BIG RING ON BOTH MONDAY AND TUESDAY NIGHTS.."**

**At the 144th Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show in February, Siba, a black Standard Poodle stole the show. She competed against 2600 other dogs to earn her crown. Winning at the Westminster Kennel Club show is every dog handler's dream. Dogs that win go on to become instant celebrities with many TV appearances and interviews.**

**Find full article [here](#)**



**Click [here](#) to check out why conformation dog shows are so much fun and how you can get involved.**

# MEET THE 7 GROUPS

The AKC organizes each of the recognized breeds into different groups. Hound, Herding, Sporting, Terrier, Toy, Working and Non-Sporting. Each group represents a different function and dogs are grouped depending on what they were originally bred to do. Let's meet the 7 groups!

★ While reading, **highlight** words you do not understand. Then, discuss with an adult or use a dictionary to understand the words meaning.



The Sporting Group was first bred to work closely with hunters to find and retrieve birds. Sporting dogs are highly active and great family dogs!



The Terrier Group is made up of spunky little dogs who were bred to hunt rats and other small animals.

They are known for their feisty personalities and like to be the center of attention.

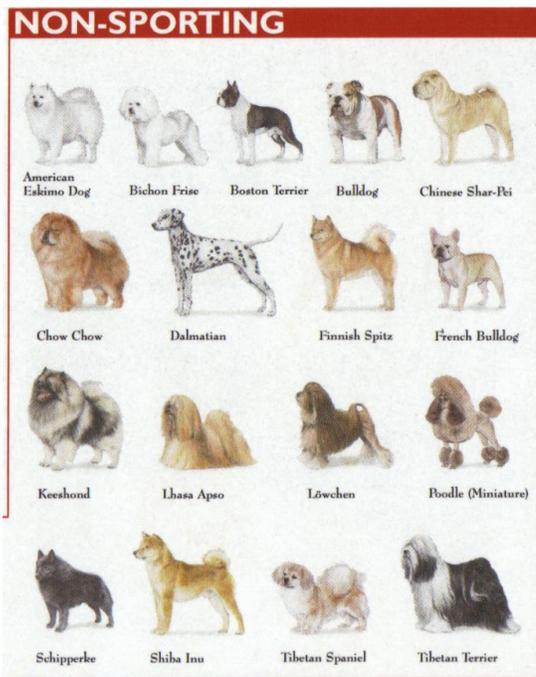


The Working Group is made up of some of the largest dogs. They are intelligent, strong, watchful, and alert.

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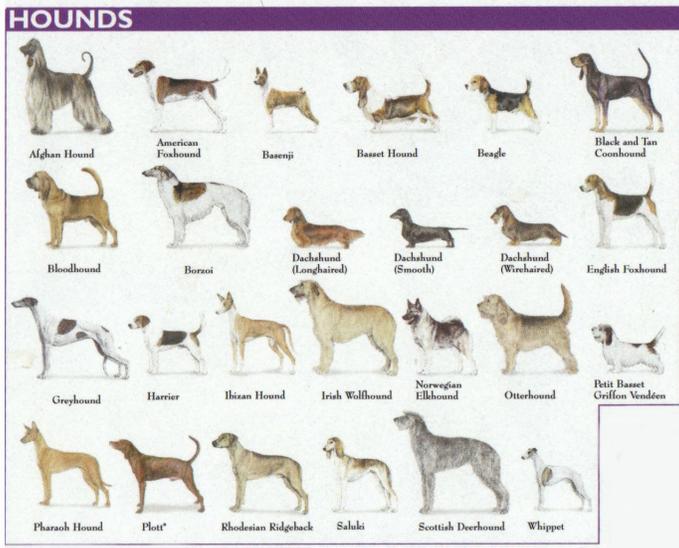
The Non-Sporting Group dogs are made up of many different breeds with varying sizes, coats, personalities and overall appearance. They come from a wide variety of backgrounds, and were bred for different jobs and functions.



The Herding Group is made up of dogs that were bred to herd livestock and help on the farm. They are highly active, and very smart.

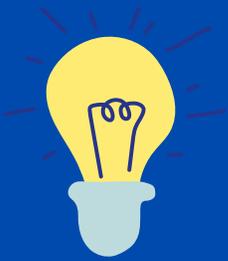


Dogs in the Toy group might be short on size, but they are definitely not short on personality! Breeds in the Toy group are affectionate, and were bred to be companions for kings and queens long ago.



The Hound Group is a group of dogs that were bred to hunt. Some hounds use their sense of smell to hunt, while others use their sight. They are smart, athletic and very loyal.

Now that you have met all the different groups, which do you think would be best for your family? Why?



**Ask yourself....**

**Is my family active?**

**Who will be in charge of the dog's care?**

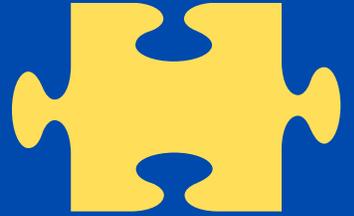
**Do you live in an apartment or house?**



Check out this coloring activity book: [Before You Buy A Dog](#)

# BACK TO SCHOOL GET TO KNOW YOU ACTIVITY

## Find your Match!



Here's how this activity works:  
Each child gets a puzzle piece.

- Once students are settled in, instruct them to walk around the room to each classmate to see if their puzzle piece fits with another student's piece.
- As they go from student to student, they must introduce themselves and tell one important fact about themselves.
- At the end of the activity each "match" must introduce one another and tell the class about the facts that they have learned.



Here's how this activity works for virtual learning:

- Each child receives instructions from their teacher and makes their own puzzle piece.
- Teacher leads activity via video chat and asks each student to hold up their puzzle piece one by one.
- When a student sees their "match" hold up their piece they each take turns sharing one fact about themselves.
- At the end of the activity each "match" must introduce one another and tell the class about the facts that they have learned.



# AKC KIDS NEWS



## Teacher Page

### AKC Canine Clubs:

AKC Canine Clubs are an after school program designed for students in grades K-8. AKC Canine Clubs can be hosted by a teacher or group leader in any school or youth organization. The goal of this club is for children to learn about dogs! We have provided all of the resources and lesson plans needed to make this a fun and educational program. Find out more here:

<https://www.akc.org/public-education/akc-canine-club/>

Highlight of a lesson from the AKC Canine Club Program to try!

Month 4 - Dog Shows and Events

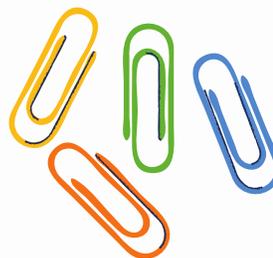
### Next up

#### WINTER FUN

Learn about AKC Scent Work

Meet the "Spitz Breeds"

Winter crafts and activities



K-2 Language Arts Lesson Plan -  
Word Syllabus with Dog Breeds?  
3-5 Math- Lesson Plan - Shopping  
for Puppy- Decimal Addition