



Royal Rangers

Merit Requirements: **Blue-Bordered Merit**

DOG CARE

1. Breeds and physical characteristics
 - a. Name and describe some of the main differences between at least four of the major groups of dogs.
 - b. Pick eight different breeds of dogs and list some of the special characteristics that make each breed unique and different from other breeds.
 - c. Describe what characteristics of dogs are judged at major dog shows.
 - d. Correctly label at least twelve parts of a dog's body on a drawing.
2. History
 - a. Write a one-page essay on the history of your favorite breed of dog.
 - b. Do ONE of the following:
 - i.) Write a one-page essay about dogs' benefits and relationship to man.
 - ii.) Write a one-page essay on why dogs are so popular as pets.
3. Health care
 - a. Describe at least six major things that are important to keep a dog healthy and active.
 - b. Visit or call a local veterinarian's office and ask about what kinds of common ailments they see in dogs, how much it costs for an office visit, and how often regular checkups on dogs should be scheduled.
 - c. Describe the symptoms and treatment of at least three different diseases commonly found in dogs.
 - d. Describe at least four things important for care of a new puppy after it is brought home.
 - e. Describe correct methods to remove ticks and fleas from a dog.
 - f. Describe how to approach and care for a wounded dog.
 - g. List some important items to include in your dog's first aid kit.
 - h. Describe how to prevent and properly treat a dog bite.
4. Training and obedience
 - a. Demonstrate three different commands with a dog.
 - b. Describe a good method of training a dog to obey a command or perform a new trick.
5. Measuring commitment
 - a. Provide complete care for a dog for one month. Write out and keep a daily schedule that includes feeding and watering times, exercise, grooming and bathing. Have a parent or other adult sign your schedule when completed.
 - b. Determine how much it costs to feed a medium-size dog for one year.
 - c. Find out and list your local town's laws or regulations for dogs.
 - d. Visit or call a local animal shelter and ask why people give up dogs for adoption and how people can adopt a shelter dog.