

Project Skills:

- Youth will make and decorate a simple origami dog.

Life Skills:

- Learning to learn

Academic Standards:

- English Standard A.4.2: Reads and responds to literature.

Grade Levels: K-2

Time: 45-60 minutes

Supplies Needed:

Dog Bone Game

- Eraser, bean bag or other object for dog “bone”

Clifford Activity

- *Clifford the Big Red Dog* by Norman Bridwell (ISBN: 0590334700)
- Chart paper or posterboard

Dog Cards Activity

- Card stock or construction paper
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Googly eyes for dog cards

Edible Bones Activity (optional)

- Cream cheese
- Dry milk
- Honey
- Crushed graham crackers
- Bowls
- Spoons
- Waxed paper
- Measuring cups/spoons

WHAT TO DO

Activity: Pet Survey

Youth will brainstorm as many pets as they can. The leader will record the ideas on a large sheet of paper. After enough pets are identified, the leader will ask how many youth have each pet. Record results on the sheet. Discuss which pets are the most or least common. (The *dog* should come out on top!)

Game: Dog Bone

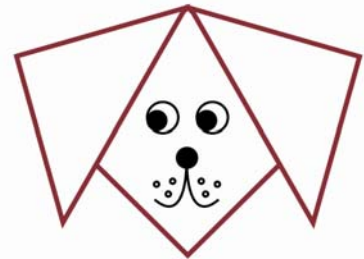
The group sits together. One is chosen as the “dog.” The dog sits facing away from the group with his/her eyes closed. A bone (eraser, beanbag or other object) is placed behind the dog and in front of the group.

One player at a time will try to sneak up quietly and snatch the bone. If the dog hears a sound, he/she barks like a dog and the thief returns to their seat. If the sneak is successful, they will return to their seat and hide the bone. The group will chant “Dog, Dog, where’s your bone?”

The dog will turn around and has three chances to guess who has the bone. The person who successfully took the bone becomes the next dog.

Activity: Clifford the Big Red Dog

Use your strategies on introducing a new book (see “Helpful Hints”) to get the youth excited about this really fun book. Read the book out loud. While reading, stop at appropriate times to allow for discussion and to point out new and interesting “feelings” words. Encourage youth to interact with the text while listening to it.



After reading it, give participants time to reflect on the book. Ask them to describe their favorite part of the book or share something new that they have learned from the story. They could share ideas on what they would do if they were the owner of the dog in this book.

Activity: Delightful Dog Cards

Follow directions for this fun activity (see page 3). To add creativity, have the kids choose an outrageous color for their dog. Messages can be written on the inside flap of the ears.

Optional Activity: Edible Dog Bones

Make sure you wash your hands thoroughly before cooking. Follow the recipe to make your edible dog bones. You’ll need:

- 8 oz. package of cream cheese
- ½ cup non-fat dry milk
- 1 tablespoon honey
- Crushed graham crackers

Mix ingredients together, using varying amounts of dry milk for desired consistencies. Youth can take turns kneading the dough with fingers, then distribute a small amount to each child. Have kids shape into fun “dog bones” on waxed paper, then roll the bones in crushed graham crackers.

Do Ahead:Clifford Activity

- Preview book.

Dog Cards Activity

- Cut paper for making dog cards.

Sources:

- Created by Kathy Kauth, Urban 4-H Coordinator, UW-Extension, Brown County.
- “Introducing a New Book” under “Helpful Hints” is adapted from *The Michigan Team Nutrition Booklist*, Michigan Team Nutrition, Family and Consumer Sciences, Michigan State University, 2002, www.tn.fcs.msue.msu.edu/booklist.html.

TALK IT OVER**Reflect:**

- What new things did you learn today about dogs?
- What are some *good* things about having a dog like Clifford?
- What are some *bad* things about having a dog like Clifford?

Apply:

- What are some *good* things about having a real dog as a pet?
- What are some *bad* things about having a real dog as a pet?

ENHANCE/SIMPLIFY**Activity: More Books**

If time allows, the following books are included:

- *Bark, George* by Jules Feiffer (ISBN: 0062051865)
- *Harry, The Dirty Dog* by Gene Zion (ISBN: 006443009X)
- *The Stray Dog* by Mark Simonet (ISBN: 0618256288)

Enhance for Older Children:

In this dog miming activity, the leader creates a list of common activities for a dog. One at a time, youth will draw an activity and act the action out without speaking. The rest of the group will try to identify the action.

Simplify for Younger Children:

The song, “B-I-N-G-O,” is a perfect fit for this activity.

HELPFUL HINTS

Use these basic, pre-reading strategies to get students interested in a new book before reading it:

- Examine the cover to predict what the book will be about.
- Read the title of the book to, or together with, students.
- Identify the author and illustrator.
- Introduce important concepts and vocabulary words that might be confusing to students prior to reading the book.

While reading:

- Stop at appropriate times to allow for participation and discussion.
- Encourage youth to interact with the text while listening to it. This helps them to understand and remember the important points.

After reading:

- Provide students with a time to reflect on the book.
- Ask them to describe their favorite part or to share something new that they learned from the story.

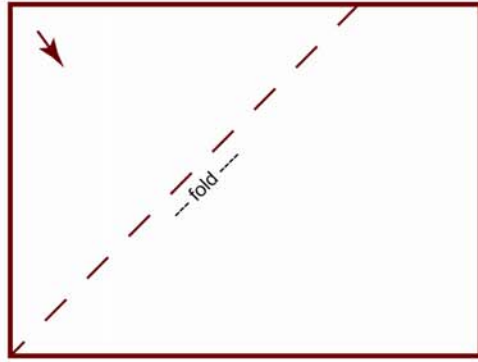
ADDITIONAL WEB LINKS

- MSU Team Nutrition at www.tn.fcs.msue.msu.edu/about.html is an excellent site for learning more about the cross-curricular connection between nutrition and good books.

Reviewed by Wisconsin 4-H Afterschool Team: September 2005.

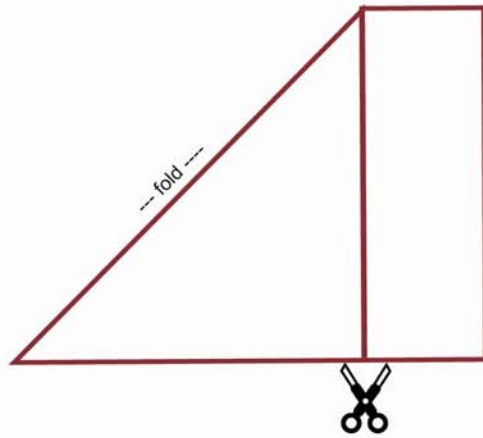
DELIGHTFUL DOGGIE CARDS

1



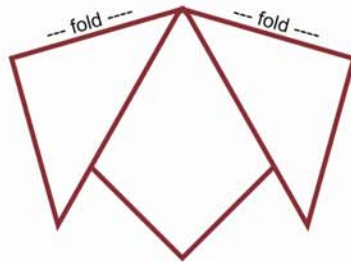
To start making a square, fold the corner of a piece of construction paper.

2



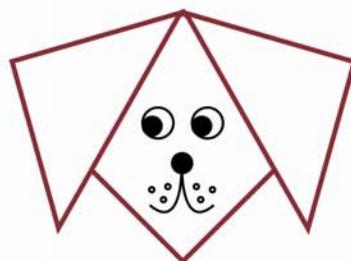
To finish making the square, cut off the small rectangle. What's left will form a square, which is already folded into a triangle.

3



Keeping the fold on top, fold over two triangles to make the dog's ears.

4



Put a face on your dog. Then glue on googly eyes to give your dog a cute look.

You can write messages under the ears and on the inside of your new card.