1. Give the scientific name of the dog family. Canine (Canidae)

2. Name five distinctive characteristics of the dog family.
   • Most Dogs have two coats. Outer coat to protect from rain and snow, inner coat to keep the dog warm
   • Five claws on their front feet and four on their back feet
   • Keen sense of smell
   • 42 teeth including 4 "canine" teeth -- People have 32.
   • Keen sense of hearing because of ear flaps called leathers
   • Color blind
   • Lets off excess heat by panting (tongue lolling outside of mouth). Humans sweat when they get hot.

3. Identify from pictures or personal observation five wild members of the dog family. Download our teaching aids that contain identification photographs

4. Identify from pictures or personal observation 25 different kinds of common dogs. Download our teaching aids that contain identification photographs

5. Name five contributions the dog family has made to man. Guard home & property
   • Companion
   • Hunting
   • Herding cattle and sheep
   • Breeding - Their owners sell their puppies to others who also wish to own a dog
   • Your turn________________________________________________!

6. Give the name of the smallest and largest breed of dog.
   Smallest: Chihuahua (5" tall 6 lbs.) Taco Bell used these Mexican bred dogs for their advertising slogan "Yo Quiero Taco Bell."
   Largest: Irish Wolfhound (32" tall 105-140 lbs.) Were trained in Ireland to hunt wolves and elk. They are a gentle, obedient, loving dog, though they need LOTS of exercise.

7. Write or describe orally the value to man of the following dogs:
   • Seeing-eye Usually German Shepherds who, when trained assist their blind masters in living a normal life. They are trained to lead their masters around obstacles, low hanging objects, stop at curbs before crossing streets, and watching out for automobiles.
   • Saint Bernard Rescuing lost travelers, especially in snow country
• Shepherd Herding wandering sheep. They also protect the sheep from wolf attack.

• Collie Multi-purpose farm worker & pet. Originally bred in Scotland to herd and protect sheep.

• Eskimo These dogs are from the Arctic, and for years have been used to pull sleds loaded with supplies. This name is often given to three pure breeds of dogs: Eskimo, Alaskan Malamute, and the Siberian Husky.

8. Write or tell what special contribution dogs have made to man in wartime.

About 8,500 dogs served in the K-9 Corps of the US Army during World War II. They located wounded soldiers on battlefields, and carried messages and medical supplies under fire. Other dogs helped the Coast Guard patrol the shore line of the United States.

In Peace time, most Police departments have several K-9 units that help sniff out illegal drugs, and Border Patrols have K-9 units that help discover illegal aliens trying to illegally enter the United States, as well as discover illegal drugs that people are trying to smuggle into the U.S.

9. Identify from pictures or personal observation five dogs that are classed as 'toy' dogs.

Toy Dogs include the Affenpinscher, Brussels Griffon, Chihuahua, English Toy Spaniel, Italian Greyhound, Japanese Spaniel, Maltese, Miniature Pinscher, Papillon, Pekingese, Pomeranian, Pug, Silky Terrier, and Yorkshire Terrier. (an easy memory device is 5 P's -- Pinscher, Papillon, Pekingese, Pomeranian, & Pug)

"Toy dogs are those that AS A BREED are 10" at the shoulder or smaller."

Download our teaching aids that contain identification photographs of five toy dogs.

10. What is the only dog that has a wholly blue or black tongue?

The Chow Chow

11. Which is the fastest-running dogs?

The Greyhound. Unfortunately, his streamlined body and long powerful legs have caused this dog to be used a lot in racing & illegal gambling. There are many rescue centers in the United States and Canada that rescue "retired" Greyhounds and offer them for adoption. They make great pets, as they're naturally "couch potatoes."

12. Which member of the 'toy' dogs has become the most popular?
For many years the toy poodle has been a very popular pet, though other breeds such as the Pekinese and Chihuahua are also very popular pets.

13. What dog has been especially helpful in tracking criminals?

The blood hound is a breed of dogs with an extremely keen sense of smell. It can detect a person scent both on the ground, and as their clothes rub grass & bushes. However, they find it hard to trace a trail that is more than 4 hours old, or one that has been "messed up" by vehicles.

14. Write or tell a dog story.

There are LOTS of great dog stories. Teaching ideas include: Hold a contest with pre-established criteria such as: "best hero story", "most amazing pet trick story", "Best news story about a dog" or "Best dog story that brings out a religious principle." Have those earning the honor comb the World-wide-web, newspapers, and books and bring in their stories. Also have an award for the person who tells their story the BEST, using good intonation, a easy-to-follow plot, and a good conclusion.

Disclaimer: These answers are only excerpts from the Nature Honor Series by Leland Davis. The Nature Honor Series is the definitive guide for earning over 50 AY Nature Honors, and is available at Adventsource.org for $29.95.