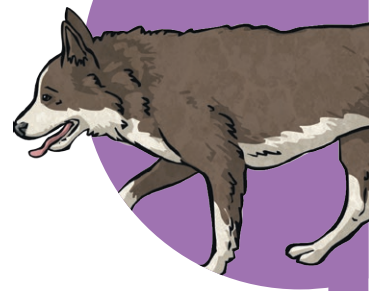


# Pet Care of a Dog

Dogs are hugely popular pets. In fact, there are eight and a half million dogs being kept as pets in the UK.



## Food and drink

Dogs need a good diet of meat and plant-based foods. They need one meal a day. They have sharp teeth for tearing meat, and molars for grinding.

They need fresh, clean water to keep them healthy.

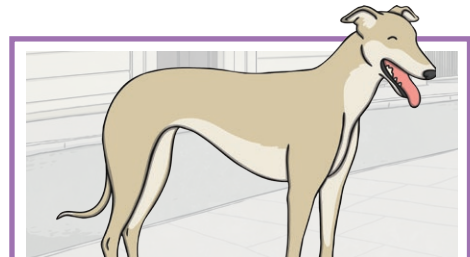
## Environment

Dogs need a comfortable and quiet environment to sleep in peace.

Dogs need a place where they can go if they are frightened. Some dogs get more scared than others and need somewhere to feel safe.

## Dog behaviour

Dogs are clever and playful. They need to be exercised and have toys to play with. Different breeds of dog have different skills, which you need to consider when looking after them. Some will want longer walks; others will prefer more time spent playing!



### Did You Know?

The fastest recorded speed for a greyhound dog was 42 miles per hour!



### Changes in behaviour

When a dog is licking its lips with their ears back and not looking at the owner, it might be feeling worried.

This dog is lying down, with its ears flat, showing its teeth and it has its tail down between its legs. This dog could be feeling unhappy or angry.



### Dangers to dogs

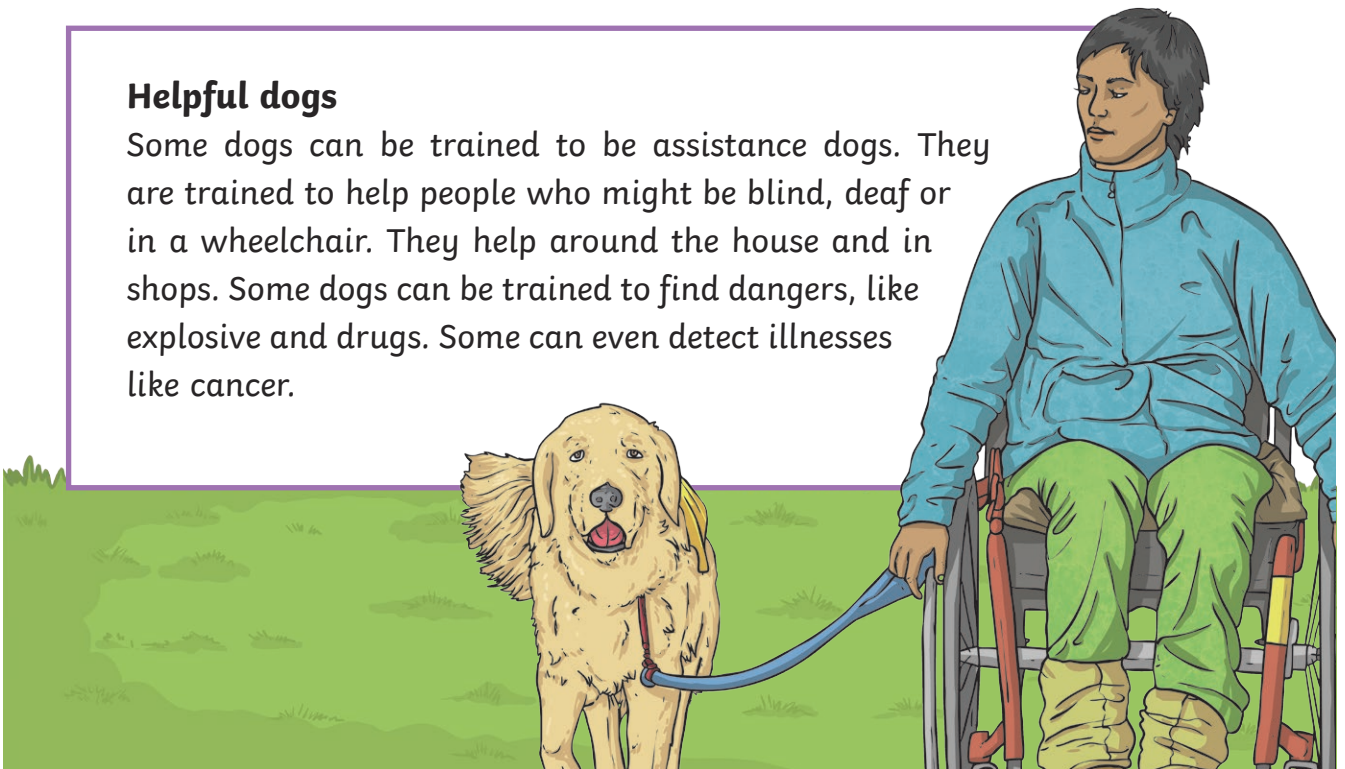
Dogs are interested in everything, and they need to be watched to make sure they are always safe.

These things are poisonous for a dog:

- chocolate
- raisins
- grapes
- sultanas

### Helpful dogs

Some dogs can be trained to be assistance dogs. They are trained to help people who might be blind, deaf or in a wheelchair. They help around the house and in shops. Some dogs can be trained to find dangers, like explosive and drugs. Some can even detect illnesses like cancer.



# Questions

1. How many dogs are kept as pets in the UK?

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2. What do dogs have to help them eat meat?

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3. Which two adjectives describe the type of environment dogs need to be able to sleep well?

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4. Why might some dogs need a safe place to go to?

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5. Name three activities that dogs need to be able to do to stay happy and healthy.

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6. Describe two things an unhappy or angry dog might do.

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7. Why should you not give a dog raisins or grapes?

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8. Name two jobs that dogs could be trained to do to help people.

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9. Which fact has surprised you the most?

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