

Taking Care of a Dog



Dogs are a very popular pet to have. It is estimated that there are over 8 million in the United Kingdom. Dogs can be great pets if they are cared for correctly. They love attention and to play and be stroked. Also, they like to be with people and look forward to seeing you.

What Does a Dog Look Like?

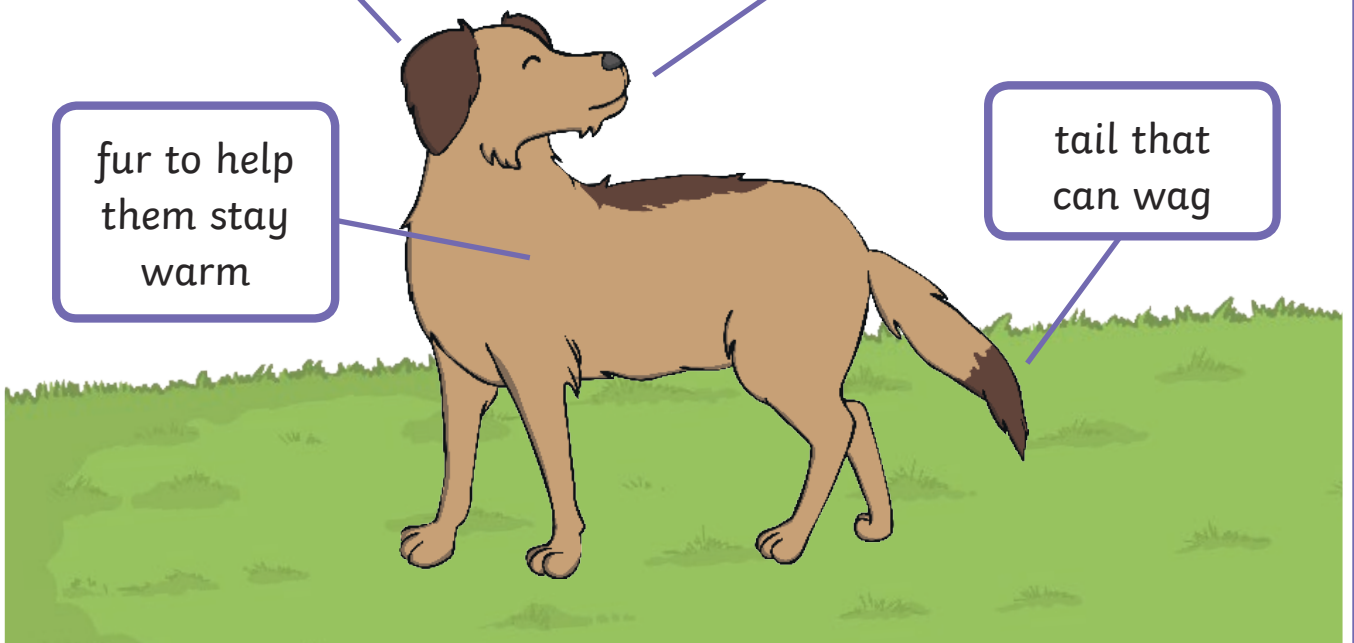
Dogs vary in size. Some are big like a Great Dane and some can be very small like a Yorkshire terrier. When dogs are happy, they can be seen wagging their tails. When they are hot, they often pant and stick out their tongue to cool down.

ears to help them hear well

tongue that they stick out to cool down

fur to help them stay warm

tail that can wag



What Does a Dog Need?

Owning a dog is extremely rewarding and can be fun but it is also a big responsibility. Dogs need to be fed the right kinds of food and must avoid others such as chocolate, which would make them ill. Owners must also ensure their dog has a comfortable place to sleep. Exercise is vital to help dogs stay healthy and daily walks are essential. Always ensure your dog stays safe by keeping them on a lead in public places.

What Are Baby Dogs Called?

Baby dogs are called puppies and they are born in a litter. This means that three, four or more puppies are born at one time. From birth, they drink milk from their mum. They have to be about four weeks old before they start to eat solid food.



Puppies
cannot see or
hear very well when
they are first
born.

Questions

1. Roughly how many dogs are there in the United Kingdom?

under 8 million

8 million

over 8 million

2. How do dogs cool themselves down?

3. Why is having a dog a big responsibility?

4. Find and copy one word which means 'stay away from'.

5. How can a dog be kept safe in public places?

6. Why do you think dogs are such a popular pet in the UK?
