Homeschool Connections
An Educational Resource Tool

Train your pet to retrieve a flying disc
dogchannel.com

Ppld.org/teens

1. Go to dosomething.org
2. Click on “Volunteer” to see other volunteer opportunities in the area.
3. Check out the cool volunteer opportunities available at the
   Library 21c
4. Apply!

Heroes – Teen Booklists

Fiction

CERD
   Carrot Soup by Gail Carson Levine
   Campers: 5th Graders by Nancy Carlson
   Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About History (chapter books)
   Dog Man: Tricks by Dav Pilkey
   Elephant and Piggie: I Want My Hat Back by Mo Willems
   Fiction
   Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak
   Charlotte’s Web by E.B. White
   The Nutcracker Prince by L.M. Beck
   Hairy Heroes (grades 6 - 12)

Non-Fiction

REIS
   The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks
   Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand
   What the Dog Said by Randi Reisfeld
   This Star Won’t Go Out by Yancey
   Prison Puppies

Ender’s Game by Orson Scott Card

Heroes in the Library

Library staff and volunteers are happy to help you find books that are

Paws to Read

Every dog must be Canine Good and certification as therapy dogs. These Paws to Read dogs work very hard, listening to children read books. Every dog must be Canine Good and certification as therapy dogs.

Canine Heroes... Much More Than a Pet!

“A dog is man’s best friend,” or a child’s or a woman’s! But many dogs are trained and excel in providing much needed support services throughout our society. Closest to home, many of the libraries in Pike’s Peak Library District offer a Paws to Read program (check on Kids Web for library locations). This program provides a relaxed and “dog-friendly” atmosphere, which allows children to practice the skill of reading.

The bond between dog and man dates back to early history, but it wasn’t until recently that a correlation was acknowledged between this bond and the emotional health of humans. Studies have shown that dogs are faster and stronger than most humans, able to catch a fleeing criminal and clamp down with powerful jaws to apprehend the suspect until other officers arrive. There are thousands of police dogs on the job each day, hundreds of police dogs have given their lives to protect and serve.

The tradition of Dalmatians in firehouses dates back more than a century. Today, they mainly serve as mascots, but before fire trucks had engines, Dalmatians played a vital role every time firefighters soon come roaring by. Once the wagon was out on the street, the Dalmatians would run beside a person holding or petting an animal will cause a lowering of blood pressure, the release of strain and tension, and can draw out a person from loneliness and depression. Therapy dogs are trained to provide assistance and companionship in settings such as hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, schools, and shelters.

Today, police forces in most major cities use police dogs to do jobs human police officers can’t do as well as a dog can. Their sense of smell is almost 50 times more sensitive than a human’s. A dog can sniff out criminals, drugs, weapons, and bombs in situations where human officers would have to search every inch. The police dog’s work isn’t all about his nose. The intimidating growl of a well-trained German shepherd can cause many criminals to surrender instead of running or fighting. When a conflict does arise, dogs are faster and stronger than most humans, able to catch a fleeing criminal and clamp down with powerful jaws to apprehend the suspect until other officers arrive. There are thousands of police dogs on the job each day, hundreds of police dogs have given their lives to protect and serve.

The tradition of Dalmatians in firehouses dates back more than a century. Today, they mainly serve as mascots, but before fire trucks had engines, Dalmatians played a vital role every time firefighters raced to a blaze. When a fire alarm sounded, the Dalmatians would run out of the firehouse, barking to let bystanders know that they should get out of the way because the firefighters’ wagon would soon come roaring by. Once the wagon was out on the street, the Dalmatians would run beside it. The brave, loyal dogs also served an important purpose once the wagon approached a fire. Horses are afraid of fire, and the Dalmatians’ presence could distract and comfort the horses as they pulled the wagon closer to a blaze.

Military Working Dogs are trained and cared for by their military human partner for a variety of jobs. These roles include fighting, logistics (transport supplies), communications (relay messages), unit mascot, medical research, detection and tracking, and sentries (guard dogs). Dino and his human army partner are pictured leaving a room after searching for weapons during an air assault mission in Al Mara, Iraq as part of Operation Swift Sword.
Primary Sources - Easy Access to Local Information

Looking for a way to integrate primary sources into your history curriculum? Not sure where to start? PPLD has an excellent Special Collections Department where you and your child can gain access to great local primary sources. Located in the 1905 Carnegie Library at PPLD Headquarters, Special Collections staff is ready to assist patrons in navigating their collection which includes Gazette newspaper articles, city directories dating back to the 1800s, maps, aerial photographs, and a variety of historical books containing information on the Pikes Peak region.

In addition to the in-library assistance Special Collections has to offer, they have put together a number of useful online sources. Pikes Peak NewsFinder allows patrons to complete topical searches of past issues of local newspapers. Once patrons find an article that interests them, they can request the article through email or come into the 1905 Carnegie and look at the article on microfilm. Special Collections has also put parts of their collection online in their Digital Collections. The Digital Collections contain photographs from local photographers, maps, and many oral histories.

Special Collections has one online resource designed specifically for middle and high school students. Located in the PPLD CyberShelf, Special Collections has four books of primary source exercises created by local teachers using local collections. These books contain letters, official government statements, photographs, and handwritten speeches all pertaining to Western history (a special focus is on Colorado). Titled Cultural Crossroads, Liberty and Equality, Hands on History, and Technology and History, the books include a variety of assignments and activities to fit different time periods and perspectives. Because these books were designed for use by students, you are encouraged to print these activities off to use with your child. To access these books, go to ppld.org, click CyberShelf, then search “primary sources.”