

Lesson B2–13

Exploring the Service and Safety Animals Industry

Unit B. Animal Science and the Industry

Problem Area 2. Identifying and Understanding the Segments of the Animal Science Industry

Lesson 13. Exploring the Service and Safety Animals Industry

New Mexico Content Standard:

Pathway Strand: Animal Systems

Standard: I: Apply knowledge of anatomy and physiology to produce and/or manage animals in a domesticated or natural environment.

Benchmark: I-A. Use classification systems to explain basic functions of animal anatomy and physiology.

Performance Standard: 1. Describe functional difference in animal structures and body systems. 2. Classify animals according to anatomy and physiology.

Student Learning Objectives. Instruction in this lesson should result in students achieving the following objectives:

1. Describe service and safety animals.
2. Discuss how dogs are used as service and safety animals.
3. Discuss how donkeys are used as service and safety animals.
4. Discuss how llamas are used as service and safety animals.
5. Discuss how geese are used as service and safety animals.

List of Resources. The following resources may be useful in teaching this lesson:

Recommended Resources. One of the following resources should be selected to accompany the lesson:

Lee, Jasper S. *Introduction to Livestock and Companion Animals 2nd Edition*. Danville, Illinois: Interstate Publishers, Inc., 2000. (Textbook and Activity Manual Chapter 20)

Other Resources. The following resources will be useful to students and teachers:

Internet keywords: guard dog, herding dog, safety animal, service animal, police dog, and seeing-eye dog.

List of Equipment, Tools, Supplies, and Facilities

Writing surface
Overhead projector
Transparencies from attached master
Copies of student lab sheet

Terms. The following terms are presented in this lesson (shown in bold italics):

Goslings
Guard dogs
Handler
Jack
Jenny
Multipurpose dogs
Safety animal
Service animal
Single-purpose dogs

Interest Approach. Use an interest approach that will prepare the students for the lesson. Teachers often develop approaches for their unique class and student situations. A possible approach is included here.

Invite your local law enforcement officials in to talk about their K-9 unit. Have them talk about how the animal is trained, what it is fed, how many hours a week it works, and any other questions students may have.

Summary of Content and Teaching Strategies

Objective 1: Describe service and safety animals.

Anticipated Problem: What are service and safety animals?

- I. A **service animal** is any animal that gives assistance in some way. A **safety animal** is one that protects humans and their property. Both service and safety animals are very important to us. The kinds of animals that are used for specific jobs depends on their natural instincts and their ability to be trained.
 - A. Even though service and safety animals account for a minute part of the animal science industry, they are extremely important.
 - B. Every type of animal used must go through extensive training so they understand what is expected of them.
 - C. Many times animals are used to protect humans, but they are also used to protect other animals.
 - D. There are programs designed to allow you to help raise and train guide dogs. 4-H has a program with specific guidelines, contact your local club to find out more.
 - E. Service animals help humans to do things they cannot do by themselves and therefore give them independence.

Use TM: B2–13A to discuss the difference between service and safety animals.

Objective 2: Discuss how dogs are used as service and safety animals.

Anticipated Problem: How are dogs used for service and safety?

- II. Dogs are not only good companions, but they are also fairly easy to train for a variety of tasks.
 - A. Dogs are used for both service and safety. They are used as police dogs in K-9 units for service. They are used as safety animals by many homeowners because they warn against intruders by barking.
 - B. **Guard dogs** are dogs used to protect property like businesses or flocks of sheep. They are trained to bark, bite, or attack an intruder at the sign of danger. The presence of dogs deters animal predators and human intruders alike. Since they need to be intimidating, large dogs are usually used as guard dogs. Some common breeds used include:
 1. Akbash
 2. Pyrenees
 3. Komondor
 4. Maremma Sheepdog
 5. Border Collies

- C. Training dogs requires excellent management skills. The handler and the dog must also be able to work together properly. The **handler** is the person who works with the dog through training. Dogs are trained as single-purpose or multipurpose. **Single-purpose dogs** are trained for only one activity. **Multipurpose dogs** are trained for more than one activity. Training a dog for one job, or several jobs is very time consuming. Sometimes it is necessary to obtain puppies so they can start their training at a young age. Often, puppies must grow up with the sheep they will protect. Patience is the best tool to use when training pups. Sometimes it is necessary to avoid too much human contact with service animals. Always use dogs that will be able to defend themselves in the situation you put them in. Since 25 percent of dogs trained are unsuccessful, make sure your dog is monitored for bad behaviors from the start. Above all other behaviors all guard dogs should have the following:
1. Attentive to the flock.
 2. Protective against predators.
 3. Trusted to not injure the stock it is protecting.
- D. Feeding working dogs properly is important to help the dogs remain healthy and do their jobs well. Clean water that is always accessible is also necessary.
- E. Vaccinations and other health care practices must be used by all owners of service and safety animals. Proper grooming is important too.

Use LS: B2–13A to research uses of service and safety animals.

Objective 3: Discuss how donkeys are used as service and safety animals.

Anticipated Problem: How are donkeys used as service animals?

- III. Donkeys make good service and safety animals. They are used to guard other animals like sheep because of their natural dislike for dogs. Guarding is part of a donkey’s temperament.
- A. A male donkey is called a **jack**. A female donkey is called a **jenny**.
 - B. Training donkeys for security purposes focuses on making sure the donkey gets along with the animals it is protecting. Donkeys that bond with sheep require no training and are easy to buy and feed. If there is only one donkey, it will act like another sheep, but if there is more than one donkey, the donkeys will spend their time with each other. Donkeys can kill predators like dogs and foxes, but can be killed by lions and bears. Make sure your donkey can protect itself against local predators.
 - C. Since donkeys graze on the same things sheep do, it is easy to feed them. Always feed the donkeys with the sheep so they learn to live among each other in a positive manner.
 - D. Donkeys do not require much veterinary care and are similar to horses when it comes to treatment.

Use LS: B2–13A to research uses of service and safety animals.

Objective 4: Discuss how llamas are used as service and safety animals.

Anticipated Problem: How are llamas used as service and safety animals?

- IV. Llamas have been used as pack animals for many years, but recently they are being used as guard animals because they are natural at protecting against predators.
- A. It is easy to train llamas because of their abundant natural instinct to protect and become aggressive. They do not scare easily and become aggressive by chasing, kicking, pawing, and sometimes even killing predators. Llamas bond with sheep quickly and almost never have social conflicts with them.
 - B. Feeding llamas is easy because they eat the same things the sheep do. It is good to feed the sheep and llamas together so they bond even more.
 - C. Llamas do not have many health concerns in general. Heat stress is probably the largest problem you may have with your llama. They can live as long as 20 years or more.

Use LS: B2–13A to research uses of service and safety animals.

Objective 5: Discuss how geese are used as service and safety animals.

Anticipated Problem: How are geese used as service and safety animals?

- V. Geese are used like dogs to warn humans against intruders. They can also be very mean and aggressive animals because they can use their wings to beat a person repeatedly. Geese are also used to keep weeds down in crops like cotton. This works well because geese feed on grasses, but do not like cotton.
- A. When training geese, always start with goslings. **Goslings** are baby geese of either sex. The main training of geese includes letting them know their boundaries.
 - B. Feeding geese includes providing plenty of fresh water and a high protein diet. Special feeds are designed to properly provide nutrition requirements.
 - C. Geese are usually easy to keep healthy when fed correctly. Heat may affect the birds so you may want to provide them with a place where they can stay cool.

Use LS: B2–13A to research uses of service and safety animals.

Review/Summary. Use the student learning objectives to summarize the lesson. Have students explain the content associated with each objective. Student responses can be used to determine which objectives need to be reviewed or retaught with a different approach. Questions provided in the recommended textbooks may also be used to help review.

Application. Application can involve student activity with the provided labs.

Evaluation. Evaluation should focus on student achievement of the objectives for each lesson. Various techniques can be used, such as performance, on the application activities. A sample written test is attached.

Answers to Sample Test:

Part One: Matching

1 = d, 2 = c, 3 = e, 4 = b, 5 = a

Part Two: Completion

1. handler
2. jack
3. jenny
4. Multipurpose dogs

Part Three: Short Answer

The following four answers are correct:

Dogs, geese, donkeys, llamas

Test

Lesson B2–13: Exploring the Service and Safety Animals Industry

Part One: Matching

Instructions. Match the term with the correct response. Write the letter of the term by the definition.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| a. Goslings | c. Guard dogs | e. Single-purpose dogs |
| b. Safety animal | d. Service animal | |

- _____ 1. Any animal that gives assistance in some way.
- _____ 2. Dogs used to protect property like businesses or flocks of sheep.
- _____ 3. Dogs trained for only one activity.
- _____ 4. Any animal that protects humans and their property.
- _____ 5. Immature geese.

Part Two: Completion

Instructions. Provide the word or words to complete the following statements.

- 1. The _____ is the person who works with the dog through training.
- 2. A male donkey is called a _____.
- 3. A female donkey is called a _____.
- 4. _____ are trained for more than one activity.

Part Three: Short Answer

Instructions. Provide information to answer the following question.

What are four animals that are used as service or safety animals?

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SERVICE AND SAFETY ANIMALS

A service animal is any animal that gives assistance in some way.

A safety animal is one that protects humans and their property.

Lab Sheet

Purpose:

To find as many uses as possible for various service and safety animals.

Procedure:

Form groups of 3 to 5 people. In the space below and on the back of this paper, list as many animals used for service and safety as you can. After each animal, come up with as many uses as you can for them. When your time is up tally how many things your group came up with and compare your lists to the lists of other groups.

Materials:

- Lab sheet
- Research materials
- Writing utensil

Name of animal: _____

Uses:

Name of animal: _____

Uses: