

Teacher Copy
Universal Screening – Fluency: 30 Week Gr. 5

Directions to the teacher: Have the student read this passage as you time him or her for **one minute**. As the student reads, mark any errors. After one minute, calculate the “words per minute” fluency rate by recording the number of words the student read correctly.

Dogs Helping People

“Raising this puppy was one of the most wonderful experiences I’ve 11
ever had,” says Brian Shin. He pauses to stroke the head of a black Lab 26
at his feet. Then he continues, “Raising puppies is always fun, of 38
course, but it’s even better when you know the puppy will become a 51
guide dog for a person who is blind.” Bryan and his family are part of the 67
Seeing Eye program, which selects families to take care of puppies that 79
will be trained as guide dogs. The program usually selects families with 91
children aged nine to nineteen. 96

Because raising a puppy for the program takes a lot of time, the whole 110
family must agree to get involved. The volunteers and their puppies go 122
to training classes, meetings, and on organized trips. The families even 133
go to puppy camp to learn more about taking care of dogs. The families 147
are also urged to include the dogs in family activities like trips to the mall 162
and visits to friends. Being in a lot of different situations helps the 175
puppies become more confident in different environments. 182

The families return the puppies to the Seeing Eye program when the 194
puppies are about a year old. At this time, the dogs are ready to be 209
trained to help a blind person get around. They learn to guide their 222

Teacher Copy
Universal Screening – Fluency: 30 Week Gr. 5

owners as they walk on city streets or through crowded stores. The 234
dogs are also trained to be alert for situations where special caution is 247
needed, such as stoplights and curbs. Because guide dogs are trained 258
to be obedient, they are allowed into places where other dogs cannot go, 271
such as restaurants. 274

When the dog’s training is complete, the family that raised it is invited 287
to a Town Walk. During the “graduation ceremony,” they watch the dog 299
at work. Families often have mixed feelings about these events. “Of 310
course, we always hate to give up the dog, but we also feel proud to 325
know that it will help someone,” Shin explains. 333

Cut-off: 120/333

Score: _____ /333 words

Dogs Helping People

“Raising this puppy was one of the most wonderful experiences I’ve ever had,” says Brian Shin. He pauses to stroke the head of a black Lab at his feet. Then he continues, “Raising puppies is always fun, of course, but it’s even better when you know the puppy will become a guide dog for a person who is blind.” Bryan and his family are part of the Seeing Eye program, which selects families to take care of puppies that will be trained as guide dogs. The program usually selects families with children aged nine to nineteen.

Because raising a puppy for the program takes a lot of time, the whole family must agree to get involved. The volunteers and their puppies go to training classes, meetings, and on organized trips. The families even go to puppy camp to learn more about taking care of dogs. The families are also urged to include the dogs in family activities like trips to the mall and visits to friends. Being in a lot of different situations helps the puppies become more confident in different environments.

The families return the puppies to the Seeing Eye program when the puppies are about a year old. At this time, the dogs are ready to be trained to help a blind person get around. They learn to guide their owners as they walk on city streets or through crowded stores. The dogs are also trained to be alert for situations where special caution is needed, such as stoplights and curbs. Because guide dogs are trained to be obedient, they are allowed into places where other dogs cannot go, such as restaurants.

When the dog’s training is complete, the family that raised it is invited to a Town Walk. During the “graduation ceremony,” they watch the dog at work. Families often have mixed feelings about these events. “Of course, we always hate to give up the dog, but we also feel proud to know that it will help someone,” Shin explains.