Name_____

Service Animals

Service animals are special animals that are trained to help people who have disabilities. These remarkable creatures can aid those who need help. Their service helps people live longer, fuller lives. People in need of a service animal often form a unique bond with the animal, and they learn to become more independent, thanks to the trained service animal.

Animals that help people can be trained to do a variety of jobs and services. Dogs are often trained to act as guides for people who are blind or have visual impairments. Some of the trained animals simply provide comfort to those who need it the most. Remarkably, there are some animals who seem to be able to sense when a person is about to experience a seizure, and the animal is able to signal for help before the problem occurs.

Service animals are different from other animals that live with people because they are not classified as pets. They may only be available on a temporary basis. Service animals are allowed by law to go where they are needed. These animals are generally given the right to enter any public place, including places of work. Those who are assigned animals are referred to as handlers. The handlers generally do not have to carry identification to prove an animal is a trained service animal. Just looking at one of these amazing animals is generally all the proof that is required.

Text Questions

1. What is the main job of a service animal?
   a. to help those who have poor eyesight
   b. to help anyone with a disability
   c. to assist the elderly
   d. to watch over young children
2. Which statement is <u>not</u> a fact?
   a. Service animals are amazing creatures.
   b. Service animals are not classified as pets.
   c. Service animals are trained to help those who have disabilities.
   d. Service animals can act as guides for people who are blind.
3. Why do you think service animals are not classified as pets?
   a. They have specific jobs to perform.
   b. They do not have a long life expectancy.
   c. They are assigned to the owner on a temporary basis.
   d. They are not good with children.
4. What does the word *disability* mean as it is used in the first paragraph?
   a. a handicap
   b. a promise
   c. a distance
   d. a movement
5. The text presents service animals in a positive light. Take the opposite opinion and write one or two complete sentences arguing against the use of service animals. Be sure to give specific reasons based on what you have read.

_____

_____

_____

 ©Teacher Created Resources

LIVEWORKSHEETS