



ASPCA

animaland PAGES

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

Working Animals



Tiffany Mahaffey, ASPCA Manager of Disaster Preparedness and Styker, who is nine years old, at the Search and Recovery (SAR) Training.

HE STRETCHES, HE STOMPS HIS FEET AWAKE AND TAKES A DEEP BREATH OF THE MORNING AIR. ANOTHER DAY OF WORK WILL BEGIN SHORTLY. RUDY NEEDS A NUTRITIOUS BREAKFAST TO START OFF. LET'S SEE, OATS ARE HEALTHY AND TASTE GOOD. NOW WE'LL ADD SOME HAY FOR ROUGHAGE, AND COOL FRESH WATER – A NICE COMPLETE BREAKFAST! NOW IT'S TIME TO GET DRESSED. FIRST, SOME NICE SOFT COTTON PADDING, THEN CLEAN, POLISHED LEATHER; RUDY'S LOOKING QUITE SHARP THIS MORNING! HAIR BRUSHED AND BRAIDED, AND HE'S READY TO START HIS DAY.

Rudy doesn't go to an office to begin his work day. He doesn't report to a construction site for duty, or even to a fire house. Rudy is a horse! Actually he's a police horse, and spends his days with his police officer partner patrolling the city streets, helping people and fighting crime. Rudy is one of many horses in this country who work for a living.

He will be on patrol with his partner for several days each week. He lives in a warm, clean barn, gets regular veterinary care, and lots of attention and love from tourists. Police horses often lead parades and are popular tourist attractions in many cities. Officers on horseback have an advantage over offi-

cers on foot or in a patrol car. Officers on horseback sit high over crowds and often see things that those on foot can not. Some dogs perform police work by sniffing out the location of drugs, explosives and even missing people.

Horses have a long history of working. Before cars and trucks were invented or widely used, horses pulled wagons that carried goods throughout our towns and cities. They have also worked on farms, pulling equipment, and provided transportation for cowboys in the Wild West. Many other animals perform important jobs and work side-by-side with people. Another example is service animals, like a guide dog for the blind and hearing/signal dog for the deaf. Other service dogs help people who are

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Animals At Work

Therapy Cats



Cats can have jobs too! There are some very special cats who live in a cat sanctuary at the North Shore Animal League in Port Washington, New York, and their work brings joy and friendship to injured, sick and elderly people. The cats visit hospitals and nursing homes and provide patients with some furry companionship that can help them recover from an illness or injury. Bill and Margaret Edwards started the program and are the proud parents of the cats. The Edwards spoke of one cat, Madison, whose presence helped a very sick woman who couldn't speak. Upon stroking, the first words she uttered in six months were "Nice Kitty." There are currently twelve cats who work with the Pet-Partners program, sponsored by the ASPCA and Delta Society.

This program registers the cats and their human partners to be able to visit hospitals and nursing homes. The program continues to register more cats at the sanctuary. In January 2007, there will be ten more cats registered who will bring happiness to people who need it the most.

Lights! Camera! Action!



Animals are often cast in movies and TV in numerous settings. Thanks to the American Humane Association's Film and Television Unit, these animal actors are supervised throughout the film's production. If you have ever seen the credit line at the end of a movie that says "No animals were harmed in the making of this movie," you can be certain that American Humane was on this movie set and can verify this statement as true. American Humane has been working to protect animal actors since 1940, when many horses were hurt during the filming of popular westerns. American Humane also works on TV shows and commercials and protects all animal actors, from insects to dolphins to dogs.

Photo Display



LONG AGO ANIMALS AND CAR
 WORKED REALLY HARD TO BUSES—E
 HELP US DO MANY OF THE AROUND I
 THINGS WE NEEDED TO DO. AROUND Y
 THEY PULLED CARTS FILLED WITH SEE POLI
 PEOPLE OR GOODS LIKE MILK, COAL DO YOU S
 OR VEGETABLES. THEY HELPED TO NURSING
 PLOW FIELDS AND PULLED BARGES OR SCHO
 DOWN CANALS. NOW WE HAVE
 MACHINES

Stryker and Styx— Two Cool Dogs!

Stryker and Styx are two very cool dogs with an important job. They are Search and Recovery dogs and are certified by the Midwest Police Dog Association. These dogs are trained to search out someone who is missing, whether in a snowstorm or in a forest. They had to go through training in Lawrence, KS and one of their special learned talents is that they can now search and detect one single drop of blood in a one-acre-square field—pretty amazing, huh! Stryker, who is nine years old, is ready for retirement and currently does a lot of school programs to teach students about search and recovery and dog bite prevention. Styx, who is two years old, recently finished training and will have two jobs. She will be able to do search & recovery and apprehend a criminal if a situation arises. Below is a picture of Styx practicing apprehending a criminal.



Tiffany Mahaffey, the Manager of the ASPCA National Outreach Disaster Preparedness Department and the proud parent of Stryker and Styx, feels lucky to have these wonderful working dogs in her life, "I'm very proud of what these dogs have accomplished and can't imagine not being able to work with them on a daily basis the way that we do. Their abilities truly amaze me every day."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

unable to walk or use their arms. These service dogs are often chosen as puppies to be trained to work with people who need them. Training is work, too. Service dogs may attend training for five to six months, where they learn to pull wheelchairs, open doors, pick up dropped objects and turn light switches on and off.

Therapy animals also perform an important job. After weeks of training, pets and their human handlers may be registered as a therapy pet team. Therapy animals visit and cheer up people in hospitals and nursing homes. Sometimes a warm, cuddly animal is great medicine to a lonely patient.

Teams of animals and human handlers may also visit classrooms and help teach kids about proper pet care and handling. Therapy animals may be dogs, cats, rabbits, even horses!

Some animals are working actors. Each time you see an animal in a television commercial, on the big screen in a film, or even on stage in a play, that animal is a well-trained working animal. Animal actors must be calm, obedient and respond to spoken commands and hand signals. They must be comfortable around all types of people and keep focused during confusing, noisy times. There are animal trainers who specialize in training all types of animals for acting work, from wild animals like lions, tigers and bears, to companion animals, like puppies, kittens, rabbits and mice. There are even talent agencies that represent only animal actors!

Even when animals are pets, they are performing jobs. Cheering you up if you've had a bad day, making you smile when you're sad and being your loyal companion are important jobs, too! Animals are truly amazing, and we are lucky to have them working alongside us in all sorts of ways.

WORDS TO KNOW:

- **ROUGHAGE**
- **ATTRACTION**
- **VETERINARY**
- **THERAPY**
- **FOCUSED**
- **UNCANNY**
- **PERSONNEL**
- **KEEN**
- **NUTRITIOUS**

S AND TRUCKS AND
UT ANIMALS STILL WORK
S EVERYDAY. LOOK
OUR COMMUNITY. DO YOU
CE DOGS AND HORSES?
EE ANIMALS VISITING
HOMES, HOSPITALS
OLS?

TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THESE
ANIMALS AT WORK AND PUT
THEM TOGETHER IN A BOOK. DO A
LITTLE RESEARCH AND INCLUDE
SOME INFORMATION ABOUT EACH
OF THE JOBS. ASK YOUR SCHOOL
LIBRARIAN IF HE OR SHE WILL
DISPLAY YOUR BOOKS IN THE
SCHOOL LIBRARY FOR OTHER
STUDENTS TO READ.

Working Animals: Name That Job!

TEST YOUR JOB SKILLS! NAME THE JOB THAT GOES WITH THE PICTURE. WRITE IN THE TITLE OF THE JOB AND LETTER NEXT TO THE NUMBER.



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____



5. _____



6. _____



7. _____



8. _____



9. _____

- A. PETS
- B. SEARCH AND RESCUE
- C. GUIDE DOG

- D. MILITARY DOG
- E. THERAPY CAT
- F. ANIMAL ACTOR

- G. THERAPEUTIC HORSE
- H. POLICE DOG
- I. POLICE HORSE

Answers: 1.c; 2.f; 3.h; 4.b; 5.f; 6.g; 7.e; 8.d; 9.a