# Animals that help us

B1/B1+ ages 11-13

## 1 Match the pictures and the sentences.

1 This animal carries heavy things.

2 This animal is the 'eyes' of a person who can't see.

3 This animal helps the police do their job.

4 This animal helps the farmer with other animals.

**A**

**B**

**C**

**D**

## 2 These animals help people. How? Talk with a classmate.

## 3 Read the texts quickly and answer the questions.

**Guide dogs**

Do you know anyone who has a guide dog? People who can't see are blind and many of them have a guide dog to help them to live independent lives. People can teach guide dogs to do these things:

▪ walk in a straight line in the centre of the pavement
▪ only turn corners when they are told to do this
▪ stop at kerbs and wait to be asked to cross the road, or to turn left or right;

- guess height and width so that their owner does not hit their head or shoulder;
- to not be scared of traffic.

**Pack llamas**

Pack llamas carry heavy objects in places with mountains, such as South America. They need to eat much less than horses and don't need to drink very often. They are intelligent and are good at climbing so they can go places where a truck can't go.

**Police horses**

Have you ever seen a police officer on a horse? You might have seen one at a football match or in the city centre when a special event is taking place. Police horses help the police do their job: they let the police see people in crowds more easily. Also, people are more likely to talk to and help the police when they see them on a horse. This is why the police have police horses at large events. You might see one the next time you go to a public event.

**Sheep dogs**

Many farmers use sheep dogs to keep their sheep together and to stop them getting lost. They also protect the sheep from animals that might try to eat them, such as wolves. Sheep dogs are intelligent and can run long distances. It is easy to teach sheep dogs to do what the farer tells them.

**Glossary**

blind = can't see

independent = without help from others

pavement = the path we walk on at the side of the road.

corner = a rounded part of the path where the road turns right or left

kerb = the edge of the pavement

height = how high something is

width = how wide something is

heavy objects = things that weight a lot

be good at = be able to do something well

truck = a small lorry

football match = a game of football that lots of people go to watch
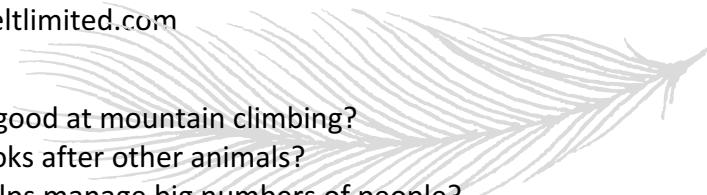
special event = an unusual happening like a festival

crowds = lots of people

keep together = to have in the same place

stop them getting lost = to stop them losing their way

protect = to look after

wolves = wild grey animals that eat animals like sheep

1 Which animal is good at mountain climbing?
2 Which animal looks after other animals?
3 Which animal helps manage big numbers of people?
4 Which animal can help their owners cross roads?

**4 Look at the sentences. Find four mistakes and correct them.**

1 Guide dogs help people live independent lives.
2 Guide dogs walk in a straight line in the middle of the road.
3 Pack llamas eat more than horses.
4 Pack llamas can go where vehicles can't.
5 Police horses only work in the countryside.
6 People are more likely to talk to a police officer on a police horse.
7 Sheep dogs help farmers keep their sheep together.
8 Sheep dogs eat sheep.

**5 Language focus. Choose the correct verb form. Sometimes more than one is possible.**

1 Many of them have a guide dog to help them live / to live / living independent lives.
2 People can teach guide dogs to do / do / doing these things.
3 They need eat / eating / to eat much less than horses.
4 They let the police to see / see / seeing people in crowds more easily.
5 Many farmers use sheep dogs to stop the sheep get / to get / getting lost.
6 They also protect the sheep from animals that might try to eat / eat / eating them, such as wolves.

**6 Language practice. Complete the sentences with the correct ending.**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 Guide dogs help people | a) see more because they are higher up. |
| 2 Llamas don't need | b) being run over. |
| 3 It is easy to teach sheep dogs | c) to cross the road. |
| 4 Police horses let the police | d) to eat sheep. |
| 5 Guide dogs stop people | e) to round up their animals |
| 6 Some wild animals try | f) to drink very much. |

**7 Writing**
Choose another animal that helps people. Find a picture of it and write a short paragraph about it.

Here are some ideas:
- a hearing dog for deaf people
- a camel
- a donkey
- a reindeer

# Animals that help us

**Teacher's notes**

Level and age group: B1/B1+ ages 11-13

Language focus: verb patterns with gerund and infinitive

## Introduction

Tell the children they are going to learn about different animals that help us. Give out the worksheet or display the photos on the board.

## 1 Match the pictures and the sentences.

Tell the children to work in pairs and match the descriptions of the animals to the pictures. Ask them to say why they chose their answers.

**Answer key:**

1 This animal carries heavy things. = C (pack llama)

2 This animal is the 'eyes' of a person who can't see. = A (guide dog)

3 This animal helps the police do their job. = B (police horse)

4 This animal helps the farmer with other animals. = D (sheep dog)

## 2 These animals help people. How? Talk with a classmate.

Tell the children to work in pairs and say how the animals help people.

**Answer key**
1 A guide dog helps a blind person go out and about.
2 A police horse lets the police control large events.
3 A pack llama carries heavy loads.
4 A sheep dog keeps sheep together.

## 3 Read the texts quickly and answer the questions.

Tell the children to read the texts about the four animals and answer the questions. They can refer to the glossary for unknown words.

**Answer key**
1 pack llama
2 sheep dog
3 police horse
4 guide dog

## 4 Look at the sentences. Find four mistakes and correct them.

Write the first two sentences up on the board. Tell the children they should say if they are

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right or wrong. If they are wrong, they should change them to make them correct. Allow them time to work in pairs, then check answers as a whole class.

**Answer key**

1 Guide dogs help people live independent lives. CORRECT
2 Guide dogs walk in a straight line in the middle of the ~~road~~. pavement
3 Pack llamas eat ~~more~~ than horses. less
4 Pack llamas can go where vehicles can't. CORRECT
5 Police horses ~~only work in the countryside~~. work in many places
6 People are more likely to talk to a police officer on a police horse. CORRECT
7 Sheep dogs help farmers keep their sheep together. CORRECT
8 ~~Sheep dogs~~ eat sheep. Wolves

**5 Language focus. Choose the correct verb form. Sometimes more than one is possible.**

Tell the children you are going to look at some of the verbs in the texts about the animals. Write the first sentence up on the board. Say 'live to live living' and ask which are correct? Then have the children work in pairs or small groups to choose the correct forms.

**Answer key**

1 Many of them have a guide dog to help them live / to live / living independent lives.
2 People can teach guide dogs to do / do / doing these things.
3 They need eat / eating / to eat much less than horses.
4 They let the police to see / see / seeing people in crowds more easily.
5 Many farmers use sheep dogs to stop the sheep get / to get / getting lost.
6 They also protect the sheep from animals that might try to eat / eat / eating them, such as wolves.

**6 Language practice. Complete the sentences with the correct ending.**

Tell the children they are going to match parts of sentences and that they should think carefully about the verb forms they use.

**Answer key**

1 c 2 f 3 e 4 a 5 b 6 d

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 Guide dogs help people | a) see more because they are higher up. |
| 2 Llamas don't need | b) being run over. |
| 3 It is easy to teach sheep dogs | c) to cross the road. |
| 4 Police horses let the police | d) to eat sheep. |
| 5 Guide dogs stop people | e) to round up their animals |
| 6 Some wild animals try | f) to drink very much. |

**7 Writing**

Tell the children to think of another animal that helps people or to use one of the ones on the worksheet. They should find a picture and write a short paragraph about the animal.

**Photo credits**

[A: a guide dog helping its owner:

A blind man is led by a guide dog in Brasília, Brazil. by Agência Brasil, CC 3.0
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Caoguia2006.jpg

[B: Mounted police deployed during an STUC-organised protest against government spending cuts in October 2010, Kim Traynor, CC 3.0
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/44/Mounted_police_in_Princes_Street%2C_Edinburgh.jpg

[C: Lloyd the llama Richard Masoner CC 2.0

 https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Lloyd_the_Llama.jpg

[D: sheep dog rounding up sheep https://pixabay.com/en/sheepdog-lambs-sheep-livestock-981878/