

Volunteer Dog Walker

Revised selection – original text by Gary Kennebeck, Newport
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Pre-Reading

Questions:

- What is a volunteer dog walker?

Definitions:

- Volunteer – a person who gives help with no pay;
to give help with no pay
- Donate – to give in order to help; to give as a gift
- Author – the writer of a story or some other piece of written work

Reading

17 I am a volunteer dog walker at Animal Art. I like doing it because I love the
36 dogs. I usually go to the shelter four times a week. I give the dogs treats when I take
54 them out for a walk. When it's cold out, the dogs don't want to walk. It's too cold
on their paws.

57 The people at Animal Art like me, and I like them too. Workers there take
72 good care of the dogs and cats. They order toys and blankets for the dogs and cats. I
90 also donate blankets, toys and dog food for the animals.

100 I like to spend time with the dogs and play with them. I wish I could volunteer
117 at Animal Art all of the time. I love it!

127 I wish people would take care of their animals. Animals are like people. They
141 need homes too. Taking care of a puppy is like taking care of a baby. Some people
158 dump their animals on a roadside. That is not right. If they didn't want a dog, why
175 did they get one in the first place?

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Understanding

1. What is the name of the animal shelter? _____

2. Why does the author like to volunteer at the shelter? (List at least two reasons.) _____

3. What is the author's wish? _____

4. How often does the author help walk the dogs? _____

5. Besides his time, what else does the author give to the animals? _____

Writing

Choice A: Retell this story in your own words.

Choice B: Write about volunteer work you do. If you don't do any, what could you do?
Where could you do it?
