



DID YOU KNOW?

Our bond with dogs is unique in the animal world. Dogs work alongside us, keep us company and improve our lives in all kinds of ways. Now, science is helping us understand our best friends' incredible abilities.

AMAZING ABILITY TO SMELL

- Dogs use their incredible sense of smell to communicate and process the world in ways we're just beginning to understand. We train them to alert us to all kinds of different odors, including harmful chemicals, missing people, diseases, bedbugs and even whale poop floating in the water a mile away!

SPEEDY

- The fastest dog in the world, a Greyhound, can run up to 45 miles per hour (72 kph). A Jack Russell terrier can reach up to 38 miles per hour (61 kph). Current top speed for a human? Almost 28 miles per hour (45 kph).

GREAT HEARING

- Unlike humans, dogs are able to raise, turn, tilt and lower their ears. This is important for communication and helps them to locate a sound source quickly. They can also hear very high-pitched sounds that we can't, like the hum of a florescent light bulb or termites behind a wall.

DOGGIE VISION

- Dogs are one of a few species that make eye contact with us, study our expressions and even look where we look. Dogs do not see color as strongly as we do, but their eyes gather more light than ours, making them better at seeing in the dark. They are also more skilled at detecting something moving out of the corner of their eye.

DIVERSITY

- Dogs, as a group, are the most diverse kind of mammal on the planet. Over 300 different types of purebred dogs are recognized worldwide, from the tiny Pomeranian to the Great Dane, from the Hairless American Terrier to the shaggy Newfoundland. Many dogs are mixes of different types of breeds -- ranging from two-breed mixes like the Labradoodle (a Labrador Retriever crossed with a Poodle) and the Puggle (a Pug mixed with a Beagle) to mutts made up of countless different breeds mixed together.

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