Dog Days of Summer

Now that we’re all spending time at home and with our pets, Summer is the perfect time to teach your dog new tricks and sports! Join me to learn more about all the interesting and fun sports you can do with your dogs.

Did you know that anyone can participate in a bunch of different sports competitions with their dog? You don’t have to be a purebred show dog to be a star dog athlete! In this virtual activity, we will:

- Share some photos and videos of dogs participating in sports and shows around the world so you can get inspired to try some with your pet!

- Do a brief demonstration of agility and show some of the stations you can create for your dog in your own yard. If there’s time, we can show you what it looks like to show your dog in an actual dog show with our own Champion Malna

Here are some other activities you can do on your own. All kids can earn the American Kennel Club’s virtual patch, and Bear Cubs (and Wolves crossing over to Bears) can complete the Critter Care elective.

AKC Virtual Patch Program

The AKC Patch Program, launched in 2016, is an interactive scavenger hunt designed to be hosted at a dog show and to teach children ages 5-18 about purebred dogs and the sport of purebred dogs. For the last few years, we have helped many scouts earn the patch at AKC’s annual Meet the Breeds event in New York City.
As we are stay home during the COVID-19 crisis, AKC Public Education has introduced the AKC Virtual Patch Program.

It’s really simple, and all the info is on-line!

1. The AKC Virtual Patch Program packet can be downloaded [here](https://www.akc.org/public-education/akc-virtual-patch-program/). All links are included in the packet. We have a version for exceptional learners [here](https://www.akc.org/public-education/akc-virtual-patch-program/).

2. Your child/student can complete the packet online or in printed form. They will need access to a computer or tablet with internet access.

3. Once you are finished, complete the [quiz](https://www.akc.org/public-education/akc-virtual-patch-program/) to show what you learned and then **print your patch**!

Here is the link to Virtual Patch Program’s site: [https://www.akc.org/public-education/akc-virtual-patch-program/](https://www.akc.org/public-education/akc-virtual-patch-program/)

**Bear Cub “Critter Care” Elective**

In addition to earning the AKC patch, Bear Scouts can work toward the Critter Care elective while home and helping to care for their pets. Make sure your parents sign off once you complete these tasks so that you can get your pin from your pack:

1. **Care for a pet for two weeks**. Make a list of tasks you did to take care of the pet. If you do not have a pet, research one that you would like to have and write about the care it needs.

2. **Learn more about your pet** or a pet you would like to have. List three interesting facts that you learned about your pet.
3. **Make a poster about your pet** or a pet you would like to own. Share your poster with your den, pack, or family.

4. Do your best to **train a pet to perform a trick** or follow a simple command, and explain how you trained it. (If your pet is a hermit crab, fish, snake, or the like, you may skip this requirement.)

5. Tell **three ways that animals can help people**.

6. Tell what is meant by an **animal being “rabid.”** Name some animals that could have rabies. Explain what you should do if you are near an animal that might be rabid.

7. Visit with a **local veterinarian or animal shelter caretaker**. Find out what types of animals he or she might see on a regular basis. Ask what type of education is needed to become a veterinarian or shelter caretaker and why he or she chose to pursue this career.