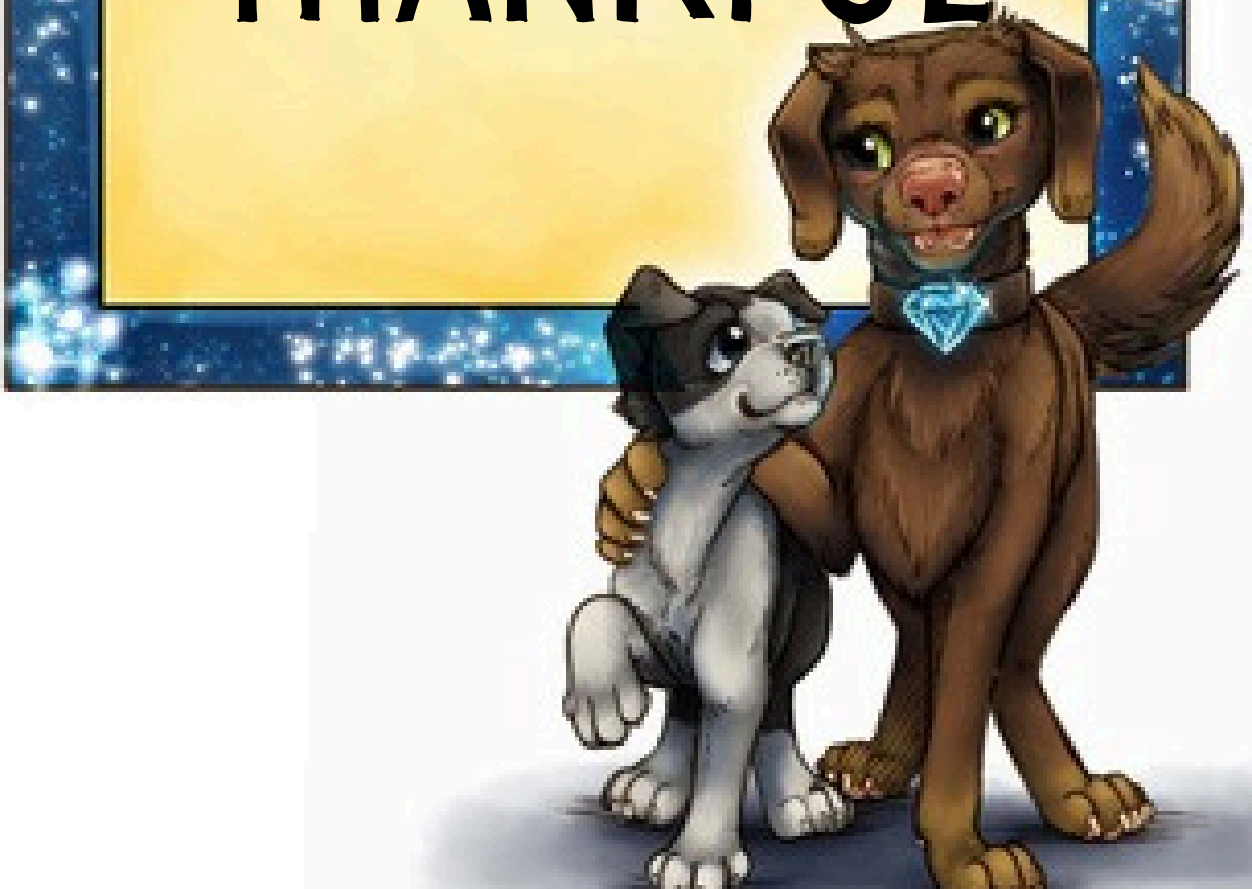


Everyday Heroes Found in the Adventures of Minna and the Canine Club Presents...

WE ARE THANKFUL



“It sure is dreary out today,” sighed Maggie, as the Canine club slowly walked towards town.

“Yes, it’s chilly and cloudy. Why are we even out walking this morning?” Clancy complained. “Also, I’m hungry and I’m tired.”

“Clancy you’re always hungry. Walking through town is a good way to put our Pledge into action, but first we need to change our attitudes,” stated Minna.

VROOM, SCREECH, the canines almost jumped out of their fur as they turned to see a black car speeding through the library parking lot.
BAM, KABOOM, “that car just crashed into the bike rack, AHHHH! Watch out little girl!" the dogs screamed as the car swerved and almost hit a child.
BEEEP, BEEEP, “Watch out you crazy dogs,” the driver yelled speeding out to the road.

“That is one mean and scary guy, which makes me wonder if we want to just forget our pledge,” growled Minna.

“Whoa! Hold on a minute,” Blue said firmly. “We all need to stop right here and recite our pledge.”

“I don’t really feel like it,” said Maggie and Clancy at the same time.
“That’s exactly why we need to do it. What are we a bunch of bellyaching, complaining dogs?" barked Minna.

“Well, I do have a bellyache,” cried Clancy, “I’m hungry.”
“Tails up Canine Club, Blue’s right, we need to recite our pledge. We can’t let anger stop us from doing the right thing,” said Minna. The Canine Club lifted their tails up and proudly said:
We are the Canine Club;
To help is our duty;
We patrol the neighborhood
To keep peace and beauty.

“We can help keep peace by reporting that reckless driver that crashed into the library bike rack, almost hit a little girl, and nearly ran us over,” stated Blue proudly.
“Report it to who,” asked Maggie.
“The police of course, I can remember the license plate on the car,” said Blue proudly.

Minna laughed, “Great, but just how do you think we are going to tell the police that? You know we canines can’t talk with humans, so you will .....
“I can help you. I’ll tell the police the license number,” interrupted a little girl.
“Whoa, What! AHH!” stuttered the dogs in utter confusion. “She can’t be talking to us, they thought. Humans can’t understand dogs.”
“Hey guys, do you want my help or not?” asked the girl.
“Are you talking to us,” asked Blue.
“Yes, I’m talking to all four of you. I’ve wanted to meet you, I live right next door to Minna. My name is Vivienne but you can call me Vivi.

They all stood in silence and starred at Vivienne in shock. Blue spoke up, “You are the first human who as ever joined in one of our conversations. Humans talk to us and around us but never with us. Sorry Vivi, we are all completely amazed.”

“I am astonished too Blue, but I’m also very happy. I love dogs and I would love to be your friend. I don’t think anyone would believe I can really understand you and talk with you so if you don’t mind we should keep this private between the 5 of us,” Vivienne said. “I think we better go to the police station and report this reckless driver.”

“You’re right Vivi, and it’s nice to meet you. Blue, tell Vivi what is on the license plate and let’s go,” barked Minna.

“I’m glad it’s just on the other side of the parking lot,” yelped Maggie as the dogs arrived at the station.
“I’ll go in and report what happened,” said Vivienne as she opened the door.
“Hold the door open for us Vivi, we have a friend that we want to see,” said Minna as all the canines entered and Vivi ran up to the officer to explain what happened.

“Shorty, are you here?” barked Clancy, and Shorty and the officer came out from behind the counter.

“Thank you Vivienne for being a responsible citizen and reporting a dangerous driver. The license plate number will help us catch him,” said the officer as Vivi turned and winked at Blue. Also, I sure am thankful for you canines. You brought us Shorty,” said the officer.

“I’m thankful for you too,” barked Shorty. “Your act of kindness saved my life.” The dogs smiled and headed out the door.

“Wow! we started off the day thinking it was dreary, cloudy, and chilly but instead it’s happy, sunny, and warm because we made a new friend and visited an old friend! I’m thankful for today. Happy Thanksgiving Shorty, Happy Thanksgiving Vivienne!” barked Minna.
“Happy Thanksgiving guys! I’ll be seeing you around, now that we’re friends!"

Just like in that story, do you ever have a day when you have a bad attitude that needs to be changed? How can being an everyday hero make your day better? Tell us about it in the comments and see you next time!

Name _____

Test Your Thinking Questions

WE ARE THANKFUL

Read the phrases below from the story. Choose the meaning of the underlined word by using clues from the text.

1. Walking through town is a good way to put our pledge into action.

A. Story
B. Promise
C. Game
D. Poem

2. “I am astonished too Blue, but I’m also very happy.”

A. Angry
B. Sad.
C. Surprised
D. Relieved

3. Onomatopoeia is a word that is pronounced the same as the sound it describes such as buzz, crackle, hiss. Circle the examples of onomatopoeia that were used in the story.

Tweet ruff jingle screech bam. Kaboom. Splash. Vroom

4. Which word below means the same as the lesson of the story?

A. Problem
B. Definition
C. Theme
D. Solution

5. Which sentence below best describes the lesson of this story?

A. A cloudy chilly day can be a good day.
B. Pay attention to license plate numbers
C. Be careful when walking through a parking lot
D. Friends are something to be thankful for

Name _____

Test Your Thinking Questions – Answer Key

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