

Science V11/S2: Dog - Man's Best Friend



Humans have learned to survive by shaping the world around them. Man's best friend has evolved (changed) from wolves to dogs. Wolves and dogs look very similar to each other. They have similar ears, mouths, paws, and fur. Some species look closer to wolves than others. For example, the Siberian Husky looks more like a wolf than a poodle does.

Today's dogs are a result of human and animal interaction. Over time, friendly wolves began to travel with packs of hunter-gatherers. Hunter-gatherers were groups of early humans that would roam (travel) in search of food and materials. Eventually, dogs became good hunting companions. They had better hearing, smell, and sight than early humans. Dogs also protected humans with their intimidating (scary) barks and sharp teeth.



Humans also had traits that benefitted wolves. Early humans developed (created) tools to help kill their prey. Dogs and humans worked together to survive the harsh conditions of the world, and they still do so today. Today, dogs are used for therapy, guarding, policing, and so much more.