

## Worksheet 2: Animal Rights Working Animals

*Some say he's too thin and that it's cruel for a dog to work so hard. I say it's cruel to try and stop him. Take him away from his 'purpose in life' and it'd be like taking a fish out of water. Blue heelers were bred to work sheep and cattle – it's in their blood.*

Dogs have been trained to work with and for people for many thousands of years. From transportation to search and rescue, humans have found a wide variety of jobs for dogs to assist with. Thankfully, most working dogs are well cared for, enjoy the work they do (such as in the excerpt above from *Animal Rights*) and loved by their owners.

**Task 1:** Research information about different types of working dogs. Include some or all of the following areas of specialty:

<i>Sled dogs</i>	<i>Guide dogs</i>	<i>Sniffer dogs</i>	<i>Hearing dogs</i>	<i>Search dogs</i>
<i>Therapy dogs</i>	<i>Rescue dogs</i>	<i>Hunting dogs</i>	<i>Police dogs</i>	<i>War dogs</i>

**Task 2:** Present your researched information via a poster or slide show displaying it to an appropriate audience.

**Task 3:** Write a personal response to the question: Should dogs be used to assist humans?

### Extension Activities:

- Who is Laika? Write a short article about why this animal has historical significance. How do you feel about her story?
- What is hippotherapy? Where does the name originate? When was this practice first acknowledged? How is it used to assist people? What is your opinion about this practice?