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## All about Pets



## BOCKER THE LABRADOODLE®

Hard to believe summer is almost here and another year of being a Tail Wagging Tutor has come to an end. I am a Tail Wagging Tutor at the Elmer Avenue School in Schenectady and work with my other therapy dog friends.

For those of you who don't know about the Tail Wagging Tutor Program from Therapy Dogs International, it is designed to allow students to practice and improve the skill of reading by providing a relaxed and non-judgmental atmosphere. They read to us! Some of my children were very shy about reading out loud but we pups have a way of putting them at ease. Another benefit is the fun children have from being around us adorable pups and this helps them associate reading with something pleasant! Imagine the positive motivation this gives to the children as they sit by, read to, and pet us. There are lots of perks from this job for us therapy dogs too...like all the extra hugs and kisses we get; not hard to take at all. Therapy Dogs International can provide all the information necessary if you know of a school that would benefit from this program. Oh, and a special note to my "students"...don't forget to keep reading during the summer. Reading should be fun and not just something you do in school. We are hoping to continue this program during the summer. If there are any libraries or book stores that would like to dedicate a specific time for kids to come and read to me, you can contact me at [bocker@bocker.tv](mailto:bocker@bocker.tv). Am I one lucky doodle...print ad and TV model, celebrity dog, and therapy dog. Woofs and Licks from your pal, Bocker the Labradoodle!



### Bocker's Summer Safety Tips

If you are lucky like me, summer may mean more car rides and trips with the family. Make sure your pet is always wearing a collar and identification tag. If you are separated from your pet, an ID tag may very well be his or her ticket home. Summer is often a time when people fertilize their lawns and work in their gardens. But beware: Plant food, fertilizer, and insecticides can be fatal if your pet ingests them.



Visit this site to refer to for good information about pet health [www.veterinarypartner.com](http://www.veterinarypartner.com)

## 12 INTERESTING THINGS ABOUT DOGS AND CATS

by papaleng, May 20, 2009

If you think you have enough knowledge about dogs and cats, then this will prove you wrong

### 6 INTERESTING THINGS ABOUT CATS

Cats always immediately bathe themselves after finishing each meal. Why?— their instinct tell them to get the food scent off them to avoid being attack by predators.

The mother cat purrs announcing that it is feeding time and her kittens reciprocate the act after about a week old,; maybe as a sign of gratitude. This purring activity will continue for the rest of their lives.

Cats press their eyes shut. When cats are satisfied or in a jovial mood they simply close their eyes.

We can't completely comprehend how cats communicate to us, but they do 'speak'. Cats express their affection, hunger, boredom, anger, happiness and fear in a unique way that we understand them. Some researchers believe that cats may have learned we can't hear them in their natural range and have adapted so they can relate to us on our terms.

The cat uses its tail like a tight-rope walker uses a long pole - as a counterweight to aid balance. The tail is also used for communication purposes. Cats born without tails do manage, though. There are other methods of balancing.

Did you know that cats can listen for prey by rotating their ears independently? Or that their whiskers can detect movements 2,000 times smaller than the width of a human hair?

### 6 INTERESTING THINGS ABOUT DOGS

Did you know that dogs only sweat from the bottoms of their feet, the only way they can discharge heat is by panting. Also, dogs and wolves yawn as a sign of contentment.

Dogs have about 100 different facial expressions, most of them made with the ears. Unfortunately, due to their breeding, the likes of bulldogs and pitbulls only have 10. Therefore, these dogs easily get misinterpreted by other dogs and often get into fights.

Two dogs survived the sinking of Titanic, yes that's right, two DOGS survived. They escaped on early lifeboats carrying so few people that no one objected. Miss Margaret Hays of New York brought her Pomeranian with her in lifeboat No. 7, while Henry Harper of the publishing family boarded boat No. 3 with his Pekinese, Sun Yat Sen.

A dog's sense of smell is one of the keenest in nature. If a pot of stew was cooking on a stove, a human would smell the stew, while the dog could smell the beef, carrots, peas, potatoes, spices, and all the other individual ingredients in the stew.

In the original 101 Dalmatians movie, Pongo has 72 spots, Perdita has 68 and each of the puppies has 32.

Giving dogs chocolate could be fatal for them, because theobromine, an ingredient of chocolate, stimulates the central nervous system and cardiac muscle. About 1.1 kg of milk chocolate or just 146 g of cooking chocolate (which has more theobromine per gram) could kill a 22 kg dog.

<http://www.gomestic.com/Pets/12-Interesting-Things-About-Dogs-and-Cats.719085>

Traveling with your pet this summer - Want to travel with your pet and need helpful information about **pet friendly lodging** and **pet travel** resources? Visit <http://www.every1loves2travel.com> and discover that pets love to travel too!