

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Does a Dog Talk?

A dog can't speak words but it can "talk." It has feelings just as you do. At times it may feel angry or afraid. It can tell you this. Watch a dog closely. You can find out what it feels. You can see what it is trying to tell you.

When you are afraid, you may look down shyly. You may feel like hiding. A fearful dog looks away from you. It may run away, too. Some dogs slide their tails between their legs when they are afraid. Keep away from such a dog. It might bite you out of fear.

When you are angry at people, do you stare at them and press your lips together? An angry dog also stares. It may growl, too. The hair along its back might stand up.

Dogs love to play. They often show you that they want to play. They may bow their heads and wag their tails. At times they bark and pant with an open mouth. Try this with a friendly dog. Bow down. Look it in the eyes and pant. Then see what happens.

Dogs need love and attention just as you do. Some dogs are very unhappy when they are left alone for a long time. Dogs have almost died from sadness when their masters have died. A dog that's left alone all day may get angry. It may tear up the house to get even with you.

Do you feel guilty when you have done something you shouldn't have done? Dogs can feel guilty too. At times when I come home, my dog gives me a guilty look. Then, I now he's done something wrong.

Some dogs snap if they don't get enough attention. Some even become jealous. They may not like it when another dog comes to their house. You may have a dog or you may know a dog. You can have fun with it if you treat it well. Talk to the dog. Invent some games to play with it. Take it on walks. Remember to treat it nicely but firmly. Don't order it around too much. Try not to punish it one time and not the next for doing the same thing.

Always remember, a dog has needs and feelings just as you do. Treat a dog the way you would like to be treated. Talk to a dog. I bet it'll talk to you.