



A DACHSHUND'S WISH



Joe Tavano

Illustrated by Ji Yu

FUN ACTIVITIES

Activity Sheets—A DACHSHUND'S WISH

These activity sheets are to be used in conjunction with the magical story A DACHSHUND'S WISH.

We want to thank Shari Marks, who was instrumental in the development and creation of these activity sheets. Shari is an English language arts and journalism teacher. She has been fostering a passion for reading among middle school students for four years. Prior to entering the education field, Shari spent more than eleven years as a Web site manager, magazine editor and journalist.

Susan Goodelman, an elementary school teacher of fifteen years, read A DACHSHUND'S WISH to her second-grade class—and they were immediately transfixed by PAWS and his adventures. Her class learned the importance of friendship and dreams as well as appreciation of one's own individuality. We thank her for the wonderful feedback and helpful suggestions.

Special thanks to Vicki Spencer, puppy referral coordinator at the Dachshund Club of America, for providing facts about dachshunds. Vicki also teaches second grade and will be using A DACHSHUND'S WISH, as well as her own pet dachshunds, as helpful learning tools in the classroom.

Dear Parents, Grandparents, and Caregivers,

Reserve a special place on your bookshelves for *A DACHSHUND'S WISH* by JOE TAVANO, sure to be an enduring favorite of all readers—both the young and the young at heart.

There are so many reasons to embrace this book—the heartfelt writing that shapes the magnetic characters and story, the enchanting artwork that makes the tale burst to life and the timeless life lessons that reinforce goodness and charity among people and animals alike.

The activity sheets are designed to enhance and expand your children's reading experience of *A DACHSHUND'S WISH*.

In the *You're the Author!* worksheet, your children will be encouraged to display their creativity as we take them through the essential building blocks of a story. We selected the theme of kindness because it is an excellent quality to foster in young readers.

We know children love word searches, and we have supplied one with terms found in *A DACHSHUND'S WISH*. We hope your children have fun finding all the words!

The *Fun with Numbers* worksheet will challenge your children to work through multistep math problems to develop high-level thinking skills and an understanding of measurement. This worksheet will also give your children a sense of the time and money necessary to care for a dog.

Enjoy this book and the accompanying activities with the readers you love. It's sure to be a rewarding experience for everyone.

Happy reading!

Linda Purpura

Publisher

Traitor Dachshund, LLC

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YOU'RE THE AUTHOR!

Now that you've read a wonderful story, it's your turn to be an author. Just follow this simple and fun outline to get started creating your very own tale. Who knows? Maybe you will become a famous author one day, and this could very well be your first masterpiece!

Theme: The main idea for your story will be kindness, the act of being nice to others. (HINT: You can shape your made-up story around something that actually happened to you. Some of the best made-up stories, also called fiction, are based on events that really happened to the writer.)

Brainstorm: Your first step is to think about how kindness has played a part in your life. Think about how people have been kind to you and how you have been kind to others. In the space below, jot down some of your memories. You may use the lines or you can create a brainstorming web on the back of this paper. You can list your thoughts, write in sentences or phrases or even draw pictures. The most important thing is to get your kind memories onto the paper.

Now that you have had a chance to think about how kindness has played a part in your life, go back and star the memory you would most like to write about. Once you have decided upon your memory, find a partner who you can talk to about your memory. As you tell them your story, have them write down questions they have about your memory. This will help you expand your writing when you begin. Try to answer their questions when you write.

When you write, it is important to include the Ws: Who, What, When, Where and Why. Take a moment to think about the Ws as they pertain to your memory. Then jot down your thoughts.

Who: _____

What: _____

When: _____

Where: _____

Why: _____

Good authors use details to catch and hook their readers. As you write, you want to describe your characters, setting and actions through all the senses. Think about what it looks like, sounds like, feels like, smells like and tastes like. Take a moment to brainstorm your memory through the five senses.

Every story has a **conflict**, or a problem that must be solved. The conflict is introduced early in the story and then built up so readers will want to keep reading the story to see what happens next. Explain the conflict of your story here.

Good stories have a **resolution** also. It's how the conflict, or problem, is solved. It usually shows up near or at the end of the story. What will happen at the end of your story? The conflict is solved, or at least figured out in some way.

The **title** is an important part of a story. A reader may be drawn to a story just by looking at the title. That's why we are choosing our title last. Now that we have the other parts in place, we can choose a title that really fits our story.

Enter your title here: _____

(You can always make changes to your title after your story is written.)

Now that you have completed this outline, you can begin to work on writing your story. You can add details that will bring your story to life. Take the time to write every day. Once you are happy with your story, read it over to make sure your spelling and grammar are correct and, most important, that your story makes sense. Good writers are always looking for ways to improve. Let a friend, parent, grandparent or other adult read your story and give you suggestions on how you can make your story even better. Once your story is really finished, write it neatly on nice paper and create a bright cover page. After all, it's your own masterpiece!

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WORD SEARCH

Name: _____

Date: _____

PAWS searched for many things in *A DACHSHUND'S WISH*, the most important of which was his true identity. Now you can search for some of the words you learned as you read his story. The word search contains all of the words in the list. Some are found reading forward, some reading down and others reading diagonally. Each word appears only once. Good luck!

CONCLUSION
DECAYING
HIND
CAPABLE
JIMMY

SILHOUETTE
SURFACE
EXHAUSTED
DISTRACTED
PAWS

DRAMATIC
RODENT
BURGLARS
JOURNEY
REVERSE

RODCHESTER
RECALL
DACHSHUND
TWITCH
DONNA

F F H D E C A Y I N G I E N L J R S N E
E T B U R G L A R S A E N A R I J U D C
T S H D A C O C L U S O I N O M E R I D
W B E A D C D O N N A I H R D M S F S A
I Y U R O D C H E S T E C T C Y I A T Y
T C R R S L B U R G L A R L H Y L T R S
H N A W G S T W I T C H D S E T H C A A
C J A P G A I R E C A L U N S W O O C D
J P C E A E R L O T A J R D T I U N T N
D T D E Y E C S H I L U O C E T T C E R
R R C A P A B L I O O E A U R C T L D E
A A A E J I M M X J U T X R R A E U O I
M R D M S U R F A C E E T H O N Y S C T
M L A E A R E C A L L S T R A D T I W L
A C N A N T D A C H S H G T E U E O D T
T H I N D T I E X H A U S R E V S N W N
I J Y L I D A C H S H U N D C D E T T G
C I U D D W C U C R D A N N A O B R E S
A M A I C A P A B L E J O E R N U Y S D
E S H O R E E U I E A S A E O H I E Y E



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ANSWER KEY

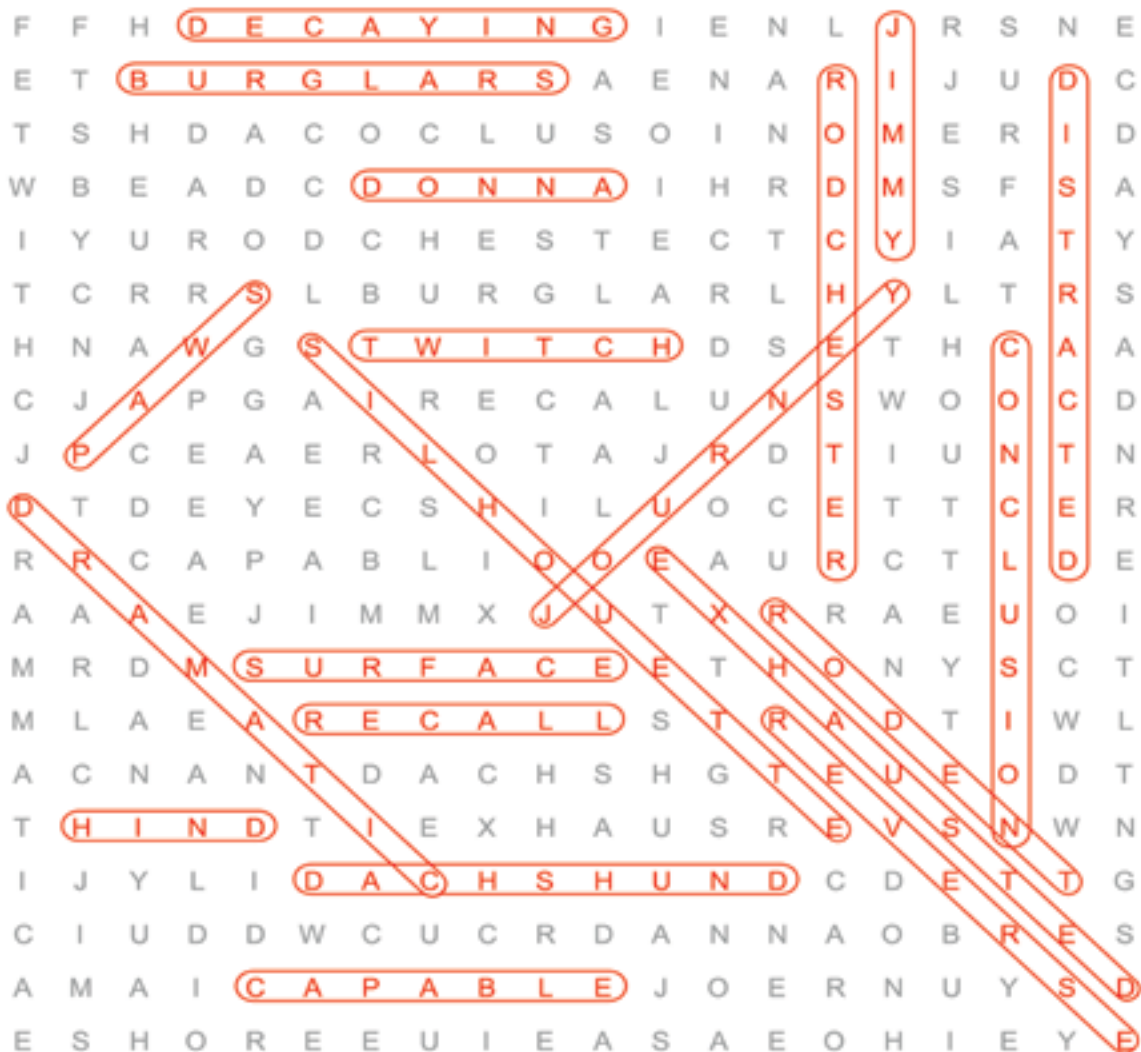
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DACHSHUND
TWITCH
DONNA



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FUN WITH NUMBERS

Now it's time for you to show off your math skills. You're going to read and figure out some math word problems.

Let's have some fun with numbers!

1. When Jimmy and his family brought PAWS home, they realized they would have to return to the pet store to buy some very important items. They wanted to be sure to bring enough money to pay for all of PAWS's supplies. They had only five-dollar bills in the house. They checked the store's Web site for prices. They made a list of what they needed and how much each item would cost.

- 1 leash: \$3.95
- 1 bag of food: \$18.49
- 1 toy: \$2.89
- 1 water bowl: \$1.49
- 1 food bowl: \$1.49
- 1 dog bed: \$29.98
- 1 chew toy: \$1.45

What is the total price for all the items on their list?

How many five-dollar bills did Jimmy's family need to bring with them to the pet store to pay for all the items?

BONUS: If the family had only ten-dollar bills, how many would they need to bring with them?

FUN FACT: IT COSTS A LOT TO TAKE CARE OF A DOG. BESIDES THE SUPPLIES LISTED ABOVE, DOGS NEED TO GO TO THE DOCTOR, JUST LIKE HUMANS. THE TOTAL COST OF TAKING CARE OF A DOG CAN BE AS HIGH AS \$700 A YEAR. (SOURCE: AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (ASPCA), "PET CARE—FAST FACTS: PET OWNERSHIP IN THE UNITED STATES," AVAILABLE FROM [HTTP://WWW.ASPCA.ORG](http://www.aspc.org).)

2. Taking care of a dog takes a lot of work. For example, if PAWS eats three times a day and each feeding takes 10 minutes, Jimmy and his family would need to spend 30 minutes, or one half hour, feeding PAWS each day.

This is what PAWS needs each day:

- Feeding: 3 meals take 10 minutes each
- Walking: 3 walks take 20 minutes each
- Playing: 3 playtimes take 15 minutes each

This is what PAWS needs only one day each week:

- Brushing teeth: 1 brushing a week takes 2 minutes

a. How many minutes must Jimmy and his family put aside to take care of PAWS on the day he gets his teeth brushed?

b. How many minutes must Jimmy and his family put aside to take care of PAWS on the days he doesn't get his teeth brushed?

BONUS: For both part a and part b, turn the minutes into hours. (HINT: Divide the total minutes by 60.)

FUN FACT: A LONG-NOSED DOG SUCH AS THE DACHSHUND NEEDS TO HAVE HIS OR HER TEETH BRUSHED. IF THE TEETH AREN'T TAKEN CARE OF, THE DOG CAN GET A NASTY DISEASE. CLEAN TEETH LEAD TO GOOD HEALTH! (SOURCE: MOUNTAIN VIEW ANIMAL HOSPITAL, BOISE, IDAHO, "DENTAL CARE," [HTTP://WWW.MVANHOSP.COM/DENTAL_CARE.HTML](http://www.mvanhosp.com/dental_care.html).)

3. PAWS weighed 4 pounds (lb) when Jimmy and his family first brought him home. How much weight did PAWS gain in his first five months at Jimmy's house?

- Month 1: +4 lb
- Month 2: +3 lb
- Month 3: +3 lb
- Month 4: +3 lb
- Month 5: +2 lb

How much does Paws weigh in total? (HINT: Include his original weight of 4 lb.)

BONUS: What is PAWS's average weight gain each month? (HINT: Divide the total weight gained by 5.)

FUN FACT: IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT OWNERS KEEP A CLOSE WATCH ON A DACHSHUND'S DIET. IF A DACHSHUND GAINS TOO MUCH WEIGHT, HE OR SHE CAN SUFFER FROM BACK PROBLEMS. (SOURCE: DACHSHUND CLUB OF AMERICA, INC. "DACHSHUND FAQ—GENERAL CARE," [HTTP://WWW.DACHSHUND-DCA.ORG/FAQ.HTML](http://www.dachshund-dca.org/faq.html).)

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FUN WITH NUMBERS ANSWER KEY

$$\begin{array}{r} 1. \quad \$3.95 \\ \quad \$18.49 \\ \quad \quad \$2.89 \\ \quad \quad \quad \$1.49 \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \$1.49 \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \$29.98 \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad + \quad \$1.45 \\ \hline \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \$59.74 \end{array}$$

The items on their list total \$59.74. Jimmy's family would need to bring twelve five-dollar bills with them to the store.

BONUS: If they had only ten-dollar bills, they would need to bring six with them.

2. Feeding: $3 \times 10 = 30$ minutes each day
Walking: $3 \times 20 = 60$ minutes each day
Playing: $3 \times 15 = 45$ minutes each day
Brushing teeth: 2 minutes once a week

a.
$$\begin{array}{r} 30 \\ 60 \\ 45 \\ + 2 \\ \hline 137 \text{ minutes} \end{array}$$

One day each a week, Jimmy and his family have to set aside 137 minutes to take care of PAWS. On this day, Jimmy and his family brush PAWS's teeth so that they are clean and healthy.

b.
$$\begin{array}{r} 30 \\ 60 \\ + 45 \\ \hline 135 \text{ minutes} \end{array}$$

On the other days of the week, Jimmy and his family have to set aside 135 minutes to take care of PAWS. On these days, Jimmy and his family do not brush PAWS's teeth.

BONUS:

- a. $137 \div 60 = 2$ hours and 17 minutes on the one day of the week that Jimmy and his family brush PAWS's teeth.
b. $135 \div 60 = 2$ hours and 15 minutes on days Jimmy and his family do not brush PAWS's teeth.

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3. PAWS gained weight over his first five months with Jimmy and his family.

In the first month, he gained 4 lb

In the second month, he gained 3 lb: $4 + 3 = 7$

In the third month, he gained 3 lb: $7 + 3 = 10$

In the fourth month, he gained 3 lb: $10 + 3 = 13$

In the fifth month, he gained 2 lb: $13 + 2 = 15$

PAWS originally weighed 4 lb. He gained 15 lb. He now weighs 19 lb in total.

$$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ + 15 \\ \hline 19 \text{ lb} \end{array}$$

BONUS: $15 \div 5 = 3$. PAWS gained an average of 3 lb each month.