



POLICE DOGS



by Frances E. Ruffin



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**Consultant: Wilma Melville, Founder
National Disaster Search Dog Foundation**

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National Disaster Search Dog Foundation
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(888) 4K9-HERO
www.SearchDogFoundation.org



The Search Dog Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that rescues dogs, gives them professional training, and partners them with firefighters to find people buried alive in disasters. They produce the most highly trained search dogs in the nation.

*To David Woods,
who served as a military police officer
in the United States Air Force*

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A Nighttime Chase


In the dark streets, the car thief thought he could get away from the police. When it seemed safe, he pulled over the stolen car and jumped out. Minutes after he ran into the woods, however, the police found the car. Right away, the officers knew they'd need help to search the woods.



Officer Jim Bauerly and his dog, Sipo, were called. At first, Sipo ran back and forth through the woods, his nose in the air. Then he smelled something and gave a bark. When Jim caught up to him, Sipo was holding on to the thief's arm!



**Officer Jim Bauerly
and Sipo**



**Depending on the weather
and the site, a bloodhound
can follow a person's smell
even if it's 10 days old.**

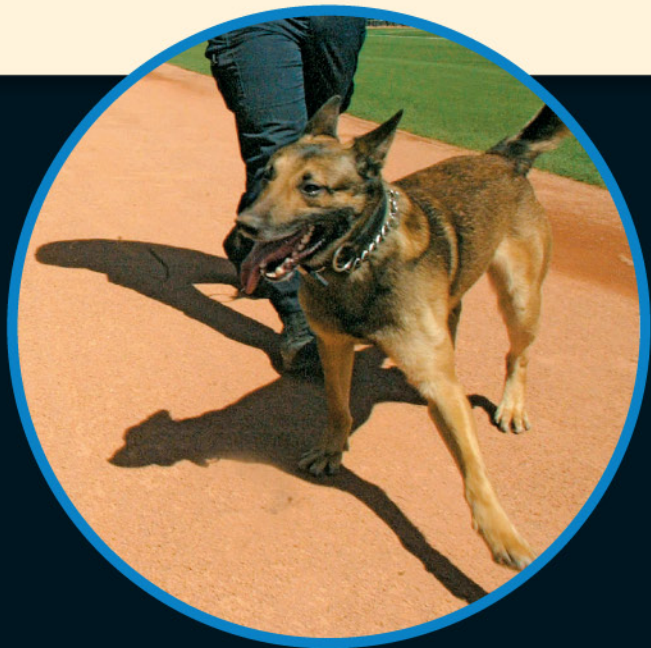
Dog Detectives

Dogs are important members of police departments around the world. Why do police officers need their help? Dogs are born **detectives**. They hear and smell things much better than a person. A police dog can learn to smell even a small amount of a drug.



A police dog sniffs for drugs at the Mexican border.

Dogs can see the smallest movement from far away. They can also run much faster than a person. If a **suspect** runs away from a crime scene, a police dog can often catch him. These skills help make dogs powerful crime fighters.



Gator and his partner, Police Officer Neil Gang, search Surprise Stadium in Arizona.

Dogs can see a mouse moving from 100 yards away.