

STATION #1 - READ

SCHOOL / LIBRARY / ETC

WHAT TO BRING:

IETD bandana and badge, Insurance information, Incident report form, Blanket, Brush, Cards and Stickers, Poop bags, Treats, Water, and ID

A blanket helps to identify your space to your dog and the children

A brush can give the children “something to do” if they are not reading to your dog.

Cards and Stickers to pass out so the children have a keepsake of the visit.

Treats and water should not be given during visit, but can be given immediately after a visit.

UPON ARRIVAL:

Arrive approximately 10-15 minutes early. **Schools require you to bring a photo ID and you must check in at the office prior to the visit!** This gives you time to potty your dog before going in for the visit and finding your way if it is your first time at a visit site.

Set up your space with a good distance from other teams (3 feet apart when possible). Children will be moving around and don't always pay attention to paws and tails. Also, some dogs need that space to not react to other dogs. (The back of a room makes an ideal location.)

Remind your dog, as needed, this is not a time for play.

Have cards and stickers ready for the children

Sometimes dogs just need to get up and move around during a visit. Make sure they remain in the space you set up so they don't crowd another team. Some dogs establish their area and may react to another dog entering their area. This is not a good look and is to be avoided by each handler keeping a close eye on their dog.

You may encounter kids who are unsure how to pet/interact with your dog. It's ok to use kind words with specific directions to guide them. Such as , "Fido likes to be pet from his shoulders down toward his tail. Like this." Remember, your dogs safety should be your **top** priority.

AFTER THE VISIT:

Put away whatever items you brought, clean up your space, if needed, and head out of the visit area. Schools tend to have their visits toward the end of the day, so you do not want to be caught up in the going home frenzy.

Dogs may interact a little bit at this time, but please remember that it is not play time. Also, keep in mind that not every dog wishes to interact.

This is usually a good time for teams to take pictures

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KEY POINTS

- *Bring items needed (Blanket, Brush, Cards and Stickers, Poop bags, Treats, Water, and ID)

- *Arrive early

- *Set up with good amount of space between teams

- *Not play time, minimal interaction between dogs during visit

- *Always keep your dogs safety and comfort as the top priority