Volunteer Dog Walker
Revised selection – original text by Gary Kennebeck, Newport
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Pre-Reading

Questions:

• What is a volunteer dog walker?

Definitions:

• Volunteer – a person who gives help with no pay; to give help with no pay
• Donate – to give in order to help; to give as a gift
• Author – the writer of a story or some other piece of written work

Reading

I am a volunteer dog walker at Animal Art. I like doing it because I love the dogs. I usually go to the shelter four times a week. I give the dogs treats when I take them out for a walk. When it’s cold out, the dogs don’t want to walk. It’s too cold on their paws.

The people at Animal Art like me, and I like them too. Workers there take good care of the dogs and cats. They order toys and blankets for the dogs and cats. I also donate blankets, toys and dog food for the animals.

I like to spend time with the dogs and play with them. I wish I could volunteer at Animal Art all of the time. I love it!

I wish people would take care of their animals. Animals are like people. They need homes too. Taking care of a puppy is like taking care of a baby. Some people dump their animals on a roadside. That is not right. If they didn’t want a dog, why did they get one in the first place?

Level 3.0
Understanding

1. What is the name of the animal shelter?_________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________________

2. Why does the author like to volunteer at the shelter? (List at least two reasons.) _____
   ________________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________________

3. What is the author’s wish? __________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________________

4. How often does the author help walk the dogs? _______________________________________  
   ________________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________________

5. Besides his time, what else does the author give to the animals? ________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________________

Writing

Choice A: Retell this story in your own words.

Choice B: Write about volunteer work you do. If you don’t do any, what could you do?    
   Where could you do it?

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