

Dog Jog Adventure with the Sisters
Carol Montgomery

Performance Time = about 7 minutes

Readability = grade 3.6

Cast (4-5):

Narrator #1 (dogs & Jesse)

Jesse

Narrator #2 (Michaela & Emma)

Michaela

Emma

Vocabulary:

adventure	distress
adapted	reek
jogging	tremendous
route	powerful
surprise	accelerated
birthday	stench
camera	assistance
continued	jaunt
yank	delicious
biscuits	seized
slobbered	hilarious
whined	definitely
obedience	reins
unfortunately	rambunctious
discovered	
prophetic	
laughing	
knots	
everyone's	
attention	
barreled	
lunged	
clenched	
tightened	
bruised	



Dog Jog Adventure with the Sisters **Carol Montgomery**

Narrator 1: “Dog Jog Adventure.” Adapted from a true story.

Narrator 2: The Stevenson sisters—Michaela, Emma, and Jesse—decided to take a break from their weekend homework. Michaela, a college junior, noticed her high school sister, Emma, putting on her jogging shoes.

Michaela: Looks like you’re going jogging again, Emma.

Emma: Yup. But, I want to take the dogs this time.

Michaela: Not ALL THREE dogs at the same time...

Emma: Why not? I’m bigger and stronger now. And, the Danes are older.

Jesse: And BIGGER and STRONGER, too!

Narrator 1: Jesse, the youngest, responded.

Jesse: I’ll go with you. I’ll take Muffin.

Emma: Good idea, Jess. Michaela, we’ll be fine. You know Mom and Dad don’t want me jogging alone. Do YOU want to come along?

Michaela: Sure, let me just grab the camera first. I have a feeling you may be in for a surprise.

Emma: Oh, are you planning a surprise party for me?

Michaela: You wish! It’s not even your birthday yet.

Narrator 2: So Emma grabbed the three dog leashes and a couple of delicious dog biscuits. She handed one of the leashes to Jesse.

Narrator 1: The three dogs jumped, slobbered, and whined to go outside.

Narrator 2: Emma snapped the leashes on the collars and opened the front door.

Narrator 1: Two leashes dashed out first—pulled by the Great Dane brothers Max and Mustard.

Narrator 2: Holding the two leashes tightly, Emma raced out behind them.

Narrator 1: Jesse quickly followed with their old mutt, Muffin.

Jesse: Come on, Muffin! It looks like Max and Mustard have a plan.

Narrator 1: Unfortunately for Emma, Max and Mustard DID have a plan.....adventure! The Great Dane brothers towed Emma down the road—fortunately in the right direction.

Narrator 2: Emma called...

Emma: Hey, guys! Remind me to take you to obedience school one at a time, okay?

Narrator 1: Muffin the Mutt never passed obedience school and the Great Dane brothers had never been. As Great Danes, Max and Mustard were tremendous in size and strength. Their powerful pull on the leashes accelerated, dragging Emma behind.

Emma: Max! Mustard! Slow down! It's NOT a race.

Narrator 1: But, the big dogs continued to yank on their leashes, forcing Emma to run faster.

Narrator 2: The wind sang through her bouncing hair and Jesse laughed out loud as she tried to keep up.

Jesse: *(laughs)* All you need is wheels and you'd be on Mr. Toad's Wild Ride.

Narrator 2: Jesse didn't know how prophetic she was! They all passed the red barn just as Max and Mustard discovered...

Emma: No! No! No!

Narrator 1: Stinky roadkill.

Emma: Max, Mustard, Muffin, no!

Jesse: Muffin, no! This smells horrible!

Narrator 2: Emma yanked on her leashes, but the dogs kept returning to the poor dead skunk. The two big dogs traced circles around Emma and Jesse, tangling them in the middle of three leashes with three stinky dogs. Emma sat down to climb out of the leashes.

Emma: No! No! No! Not the skunk again! Oh, you guys!

Narrator 2: Just then the sound of footsteps running behind them seized the girl's attention. They turned.

Michaela: I've been trying to catch up with you, but you were a bouncing blur ahead and I guess you didn't hear me. You must have left in a hurry.

Jesse: Sorry, Max and Mustard got a little rambunctious. They took off like they were in a race for buried treasure.

Michaela: I guess they found unburied treasure instead, right? Let me get a close up with the camera.

Emma: *(laughing)* Hey, Michaela! Put that camera down and come help me, please!

Narrator 2: Michaela lowered the camera and scurried to her younger sister laughing.

Michaela: I can't wait to get that up on You Tube! That was so funny! I'm sorry I couldn't help you sooner, but you weren't hurt or in danger. You should have seen those two dogs dragging you to that dead skunk, and then tying you up in knots! It was hilarious!

Emma: *(laughing)* I guess if you put it up on You Tube I WILL see it—and so will the rest of the world. Those dogs are super strong and so energetic!

Michaela: I know. I couldn't believe you wanted to take all three at once. It's a good thing Jesse helped with Muffin. You must be Super Girls!

Emma: I'm definitely NOT Super Anybody. Here, take the big boys, Max and Mustard while I get up. Jesse can keep Muffin.

Jesse: Muffin is puffing and she stinks!

Michaela: That's okay; we'll deal with the smell later. Can you take the camera now? I'll give Emma Mustard back since she's not hurt.

Jesse: Sure, I'll take the camera! Emma and I owe you a video. Just holler if you need help and I'll show up with the camera, okay?

Michaela: I'll consider it. Hey, these guys really reek. I mean REALLY! How can you stand it?

Emma: I didn't have much of a choice, did I? The skunk stench made me gag, but I couldn't stop them and I knew I could NOT let go!

Jesse: You got that right. Who knows what would happen if you ever let go of the leashes?

Michaela: I can take Max, but do you want to turn back?

Emma: Nope. Now that you're here this might be kind of fun. Let's go to the end of the road at the woods and turn around. Just give the dogs a long leash and we won't smell them so much.

Michaela: Sounds good to me!

Jesse: Muffin looks ready for more adventure, too.

Narrator 1: The odd crew trotted down the road while the woods grew denser on both sides.

Narrator 2: When they were just about to the end of the road a loud noise in the bushes ahead grabbed everyone's attention.

Narrator 1: The three dogs stopped.

Emma: What was that?

Michaela: Shhhhh...stand still and be quiet. Get your camera ready, Jesse.

Narrator 2: Emma and Jesse obeyed.

Narrator 1: The dogs quit panting. Their ears were like soldiers waiting for orders. Suddenly a large, white-tailed deer barreled out of the bushes and lunged across the road full speed and into the woods on the other side.

Michaela: Whoa!

Narrator 1: The dogs took off—all three—chasing the deer.

Narrator 2: Michaela and Emma clenched their leashes tightly and rushed off behind the Great Danes.

Narrator 1: Jesse tightened her grip on the camera and chased the fat Muffin who raced after the big dogs.

Michaela: No! Stop, Max! Mustard, no!

Jesse: Muffin, no!

Narrator 2: Muffin stopped quickly, but the Big Dog brothers raced ahead as though they were playing a game of tag with the deer, dragging Michaela and Emma behind. The girls dug their feet into the soft soil.

Emma: Stop! Stop!

Narrator 1: The dogs were wild with adventure and lunged forward following the deer—nearly yanking the girl’s arms out of their sockets. It took all the strength Michaela and Emma had to hold on to the leashes.

Jesse: Got it—all on film. Two beautiful maidens and two wild ponies chasing that poor deer. Good thing you stopped, Muffin. You sure look hot!

Narrator 1: Jesse marched forward adding clips of film as she followed the noise ahead. All at once she heard a yell and a holler.

Michaela: Yaaah! Cowabunga!

Emma: YIKES!

Narrator 1: The Great Dane brothers had leaped over a log.

Narrator 2: But, Michaela’s toe caught when she tried to leap the log. She did a belly flop into the soft leaves, with Max dragging her forward. Emma somehow plowed into a bush and plopped down next to Mustard.

Emma: *(laughing)* I can’t believe this is happening.

Michaela: *(laughing)* I know! Max! Mustard! No! Stop!

Narrator 1: With the deer out of sight and not hearing any more crashing in the woods the dogs suddenly decided their adventure was over. Jesse appeared with Muffin panting and the camera filming.

Jesse: Oh, and here are a couple of maidens in distress with two wild ponies. Hello, young maidens! May we offer some assistance?

Michaela: *(laughs)* Yes, youngest fair maiden. It seems these woods are not so dear to us anymore. These ponies have taken us for a jaunt in the woods, but now I find myself on my face.

Emma: And, I plopped on my other end.

Michaela: Would you be so kind as to hold the reins of these wild beasts so that we may find our feet again?

Jesse: Indeed, lovely maiden! I would LOVE to help! Let me get a close up of your face for You Tube first. Smile for the camera now. *(smiles)*

Michaela: How's this? (*cheesy smile*)

Jesse: (*to Emma*) And you, plopped maiden? Smile for the camera, please.

Emma: (*smiles broadly*) Cheeeeeeeese!

Jesse: Great! Got it. Okay, give me the leashes of those two overheated dogs while you get up. They're tired, but they're making me hungry.

Michaela: What do you mean they're making you hungry?

Jesse: You see three dogs—tired, panting, tongues hanging low, right—Max, Mustard, and Muffin?

Michaela: That's right. Plus, one bruised Michaela.

Emma: And one exhausted Emma.

Jesse: You keep the bruised Michaela and exhausted Emma. I'll take all three leashes for a moment. That gives me two hot dogs and a big blob of hot Mustard.

Michaela & Emma: (*groan*)

Narrators: The End.

Author's Note:

My dad had a Great Dane when my sister and I visited him as children. He named her Gypsy because she was lost and the owners could not be found. Great Danes slobber, especially after drinking. That's not a huge problem, except when the dog believes it's a lap dog and you're traveling in a motor home! On that trip Gypsy was afraid of the bumps when we crossed the railroad tracks, so she would look for the nearest lap. Her front feet would be on the ground, and her hind end would be on the lap. She loved it and would sit on that lap as long as possible. I remember the best part of the trip was seeing Gypsy run along the beach of a country river. Beautiful!

Do you have a dog or animal story you could write?



Curriculum Links (Valid in 2012)–Dogs:

<http://www.discoveryeducation.com/teachers/free-lesson-plans/dogs.cfm>

Discovery Education’s Lesson Plan Library page on Dogs--for grades 6-8, but adaptable.

http://www.akc.org/public_education/lessonplans_middle.cfm

American Kennel Club’s “Middle School Lesson Plans” page with several lessons: “Deciding if Dog Ownership is Right for You” with two worksheets, “The Cost of Owning a Dog” with one worksheet, “Choosing Your Dog” with two worksheets, “Dog Parks” with two worksheets, “Breed-specific Legislation” with one worksheet, and “Careers in Dogs” with two worksheets. I looked at the last lesson plan, but it is based on the AKC booklet “Careers in Dogs,” so you’d have to order it ahead of time.

http://www.akc.org/public_education/lessonplans_elementary.cfm

American Kennel Club’s “Elementary School Lesson Plans” page (K-6) with several lessons: “Dogs in Our Community,” “Basic Care for Canines,” “Safety Around Dogs,” “Obedience, Agility, and CGC Test,” “Dog Shows and Jr. Showmanship,” “Careers in Dogs.” I looked at the first lesson plan, but it is based on a “Best Friends” DVD (12 minutes) which is available in their “Best Friends Teaching Kit.” I couldn’t find a price on the “Educational Kits,” but there are educator discounts available for teachers, librarians, and specific youth group leaders (i.e., 4-H, Scouts, YMCA/YWCA, after school programs).

http://www.akc.org/public_education/resources.cfm?page=7

American Kennel Club’s printable activity sheets for children—33 PDFs! Note: They have an art contest every year with first round of judging in May and second round of judging in November. K-2, 3-5, 6-8 grades.

http://www.akc.org/public_education/educators_youth_groups.cfm?page=2

American Kennel Club’s page with information on getting a Canine Ambassador to make a presentation for your school or group. They have a directory available with a list of “Canine Ambassadors” by state if you call or you may contact your local AKC club.

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/lessons/08/g35/dogsshow.html>

National Geographic’s lesson plan for grades 3-5 on a “Geographical Dog Show,” using geography with the study of dog breeds.

http://www.pawsibilitiesunleashed.org/home/service_dogs

“Pawsibilities Unleashed” page on Service Dogs with photos showing dogs helping people, plus a link to success stories

Great Dane Links on the next page...

Great Dane Links

http://www.statesymbolsusa.org/Pennsylvania/Dog_Great_Dane.html

State Symbols USA presents the "Pennsylvania State Dog: Great Dane" page with 3 photos.

<http://animal.discovery.com/videos/dogs-101-great-dane.html>

Animal Planet's "Dog's 101: Great Dane" excellent video: historic, information, and action clips. 5:45

<http://animal.discovery.com/breed-selector/dog-breeds/working/great-dane.html>

Animal Discovery dog breed page with a "Great Dane Guide." One large photo, lots of basic information and links to more. (Small print.)

<http://bighoneydog.com/>

Honey, the Great Dane, has her own page and a 6 1/2 minute video of one year in her life. Honey is unusual in that she has learned "dance" routines for competition and has done therapy work. Nice photos. This is the intro page for her blog.

<http://www.danesonline.com/pic.shtml>

Great Danes Online has several pictures on their home page: "Pics of the Week."

<http://www.hoflin.com/br/great%20danes>

Great Dane owners share their opinions on this page.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Dane

Wiki article on Great Danes. Several small photos.

You Tube--Great Danes:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2dbt65yCM6c>

"Breed All About It--Great Dane" with great footage and information. (short commercial first) 2:15

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A8YPHoc0dR0>

"Great Dane Running 30 mph Fast From the Side" --documents the speed. :26

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=20vf8E1oWol>

"Weight Pull Training" video of Great Dane easily pulling 75 pounds--no sweat! 1:24

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y4xmE_zSPE0

"Great Dane at the Bubbler"--using a drinking fountain dispenser by stepping on the foot pedal then lapping out the cold water. Drip. Drip. Drip! 1:00

