Design a Dog

Dog breeds were created to do specific jobs. Each breed has unique features that suit its original purpose.

If you could create your own new breed of dog, what job would it do?

Write your answer in the space provided below.

Breed: __________________

1a. ___________________

2a. ___________________

3a. ___________________

1b. ___________________

2b. ___________________

3b. ___________________

Breeds, like the Dachshund, were created for hunting animals in underground burrows. In order to fit in these small spaces, the dogs needed short legs. On the other paw, dogs like the Greyhound were bred for chasing prey over great distances, so they have extra-long legs for running quickly.

What type of legs would a dog need to do the job you wrote below? Write your answer in space 1a. How would these legs help it do its job? Write your answer in space 1b.

Some breeds were created for fighting. The English Bulldog has a pushed in nose so that it could still breathe while holding onto its opponent with its strong jaws. However, breeds created for jobs such as tracking, like the Bloodhound, have long snouts. This is because the longer a dog’s nasal passages, the better its sense of smell.

What type of nose would help your new breed do its job? Write your answer in space 2a. How? Write your answer in space 2b.

Breeds, like the Poodle, became famous for their unique coats. This circus performer hairstyle is flashy, but needs lots of grooming! Other dogs have fur that protects them from the weather, like the Bearded Collie. Still others were bred to have short, maintenance-free coats, or no coat at all!

What type of coat will your dog have? Write your answer in space 3a. Why? Write your answer in space 3b.

Dogs also come with a variety of other special features. Think about what else you would like to add to your dog as you draw its picture in the space provided. Once you’ve finished drawing, give your breed a name. Because, no matter how silly your new breed looks, you’ll want it to come when it’s called!

Job: __________________

Breed: __________________

1a. ___________________

1b. ___________________

2a. ___________________

2b. ___________________

3a. ___________________

3b. ___________________