**Actuele lesbrief Engels – Sniffing Around**

**Voor de docent**

In verschillende landen wordt onderzocht of speurhonden ingezet kunnen worden om coronavirusbesmettingen op te sporen.

**ERK-niveau**

Lezen B1 – *Lezen om informatie op te doen: Kan belangrijke feitelijke informatie begrijpen in korte verslagen en artikelen. (LEB1-3a)*

Leesstrategieën - *Kan de betekenis van zo nu en dan voorkomende onbekende woorden afleiden uit de context en de betekenis van zinnen herleiden, op voorwaarde dat het besproken onderwerp bekend is.*

**Intro**

Sniffer dogs are trained to help find all kinds of things.

Assignment 1

Read the assignment and write down the answers in English. You may use English-language Internet sources to help you.

a Dogs are popular pets. Write down three or more other common house pets.

b Cocker spaniels are a breed of dogs. Write down three or more other breeds of dogs.

**Sniffing Around**

Most dogs have more scent receptors in their nose than humans. People use them to help find all kinds of things.

Read more about these special “sniffer dogs” [here](https://teachingkidsnews.com/2021/06/02/sniffer-dogs-could-help-stop-the-spread-of-covid-19/).

Assignment 2

Read the text. Connect the words and expressions that have the same meaning in the text.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. to wipe out | 1. the clear liquid that forms on your skin when you are hot or nervous |
| 1. researchers | 1. to discover or find something by smelling |
| 1. to sniff out | 1. exactly right; without any mistakes |
| 1. crowded | 1. to make something go away completely |
| 1. to confirm | 1. to notice the presence of something |
| 1. sweat | 1. particular kinds of dogs, cats, horses, etc. |
| 1. odour | 1. a particular smell |
| 1. sample | 1. people who study things to understand them better and find out new information |
| 1. to paw | 1. planned happenings or activities, such as parties and sports matches |
| 1. to detect | 1. to prove and say that something is really true |
| 1. accurate | 1. sickness |
| 1. events | 1. a small amount of something that gives you information about the thing it was taken from |
| 1. breeds | 1. to touch and beat at something with a paw (=animal foot) |
| 1. a natural instinct | 1. very busy; filled with too many people |
| 1. disease | 1. a way of behaving that is not learned |

Assignment 3

a Choose the best summary.

1 Police are using more dogs to help find people with COVID-19.

2 Special dogs are trained to sniff out people with COVID-19.

3 Tests show that dogs are not able to detect COVID-19 through smell.

4 The story about dogs smelling COVID-19 is fake news.

b In which situations could sniffer dogs be useful?

1 In airports in the Middle East.

2 In dog kennels and football stadiums.

3 In places where it is very busy with many people.

4 In places with many illegal drugs, guns and explosives.

c Labrador retrievers, golden retrievers and cocker spaniels are best suited for the sniffer work. Why?

1 They are already used to help police find drugs and do not need much extra training.

2 They can be trained really fast; they can learn to sniff out the virus in about two months.

3 They have a natural instinct for searching and hunting and about 350 million scent receptors.

4 They have about 350 million scent receptors and can already detect other diseases, like cancer.