

## Press Release



# Planet Dog

by Sandra Choron and Harry Choron

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## About the Book

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Do you have a wading pool in the yard but no small children? Do you always request a doggie bag at restaurants? Are you unable to see out the passenger side of your windshield because it is covered with nose prints? If so, you are one of the millions of people who live on Planet Dog!

We say dogs are "man's best friend," but how much do we really know about them? *Planet Dog*, the first-ever doglopedia, features everything that matters most to dog lovers: tips, trivia, facts, fun, and more. Jam packed with more than three hundred diverse lists about raising, loving, and living in the world with canines, *Planet Dog* combines practical advice with humorous facts and anecdotes in a colorful and upbeat format. This unique encyclopedic treatment covers the history, culture, breeding, and feeding of dogs along with behavioral characteristics of different dog breeds — and of the unique people who own them and love them. (According to an American Animal Hospital Association poll, 33 percent of dog owners admit that they talk to their dogs on the phone or leave messages on an answering machine while away.)

The comprehensive lists speak to every sort of reader, from prospective dog owners to show-dog owners, and everyone in between. Parents, homeowners, travelers, entertainment buffs, and dog owners of every shape and size will find something here.

Included in the pages of *Planet Dog*:

- phrases to BEWARE OF in classified DOG ads (pp. 220–221)
- the best dogs for couch potatoes (p. 193), joggers (p. 210), and allergy sufferers (p. 189)
- ways to make your home safe for a new puppy (p. 273)
- tips for preparing your dog for a new baby (p. 240)
- breeds that are great — and those to avoid — if you have children (pp. 194–195)
- rules of etiquette for traveling with your dog (p. 314)
- dog-friendly hotel chains (p. 315)
- how to evaluate a boarding kennel (p. 320)
- a dog show dictionary (p. 121)

- qualities of a good show dog (p. 118)
- the best books and films about dogs (pp. 40–74)
- celebrity dog advocates hall of fame (p. 258)
- the best and worst date bait breeds (pp. 192–193)

An invaluable resource for keeping your dog happy and healthy, and for keeping yourself informed about all aspects of canine culture, *Planet Dog* is simply a must-have for any dog lover.

Lists make great sidebar material and are available to media to reprint on request.

## About the Author

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**Sandra Choron** is a writer, editor, literary agent, book packager, and designer. She and her husband, **Harry Choron**, a graphic designer, are the co-authors of *College in a Can*, *The Book of Lists for Teens*, and *The All-New Book of Lists for Kids*, among other works.

## Fact from *Planet Dog*

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### Did You Know . . . ?

- Dogs have been helpful image boosters during presidential election campaigns and faithful companions to our leaders. Only Millard Fillmore, Franklin Pierce, James Buchanan, Andrew Johnson, and Chester Arthur did not have pets while in office (p. 20).
- The most common male dog name in the United States is Max; the most common female dog name is Maggie (p. 39).
- The most popular dog breed in the United States, Canada, and England is the Labrador Retriever (p. 183).
- In Oklahoma, people who make "ugly faces" at dogs may be fined and/or jailed, and in North Carolina, it is against the law for dogs and cats to fight (p. 53).
- The best date bait breed is the Golden Retriever; the worst is the Pit Bull (p. 192).
- If you dream about getting bitten by a poodle, you are about to do something foolish (p. 11).
- In the 1960s, only a few postage stamps depicted dogs. Today, worldwide, there are more than 4,000 of them, and almost every breed of dog is represented (p. 29).
- According to superstition, if a newborn baby is licked by a dog, the baby will be a fast healer (p. 3).
- For children, dog bites now cause more emergency room visits than anything else, except injuries from playing baseball and softball (p. 261).

- The Boston Terrier is considered a big barker (p. 203), the Basset Hound is a big drooler (p. 209), and the German Shepherd Dog is the gassiest dog (p. 213).

## **Praise for *Planet Dog***

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"An original and irresistible look at the world of dogs." — Bash Dibra, animal behaviorist, dog trainer to the stars, and author of *StarPet: How to Make Your Pet a Star*

"Open *Planet Dog* to any page and you are sure to find some interesting dollop of canine history, bit of doggy humor, or even a useful tip on how to make life with your Rover or Lassie better. The hard part is putting the book down." — Stanley Coren, author of *How Dogs Think* and *The Intelligence of Dogs*

"I love this book! It's a little wacky, very wise, a tiny bit weird, and totally wonderful. *Planet Dog* belongs on a list of the Top 10 Books to Read to Your Dog! Paws way, way up for this gem of a doglopedia." — Deborah Wood, pet columnist for the *Oregonian* and author of *The Dog Lover's Guide to Dating*

"*Planet Dog* covers the globe when it comes to sniffing out clues and trivia about what makes sharing our lives with our canine chums so doggone grrr-eat! An extensive and thoroughly entertaining book!" — Arden Moore, pet expert and author of *Dog Parties* and *Healthy Dog*

"Smells like the real thing." — Roy Blount, Jr., co-author of *If Only You Knew How Much I Smell You*