**Depth of Knowledge Questions and Literacy Activities**

**By Amy Slade Tanner**

**Trophies Story:** “Rosie, A Visiting Dog’s Story”

**Essential Questions and Justification:**

**DOK 1 Question:** Why wasn’t Rosie ready to be a visiting dog when she was a puppy?

**DOK 1 Justification:** This is a level one question because I am simply asking them to recall a fact from the story. There is only one right answer.

**DOK 2 Question:** Compare and Contrast….How is Rosie like other dogs? How is she different?

**DOK 2 Justification:** A level 2 question requires comparison of two or more concepts, finding similarities and differences, applying factual learning at the basic skill level. To answer this question, it requires students to have some background knowledge for them to be able to explain “how”.

**DOK 3 Question:** What does the author mean when she says that Rosie “had good sense”?

**DOK 3 Justification:** A level 3 question requires abstract reasoning, deep knowledge and/or planning. They include understanding of ideas in text and may require thinking to go beyond the text. Support of thinking across or between passages may occur at this level, much like the above question.

**Depth of Knowledge Activities:**

**Level 1:** Have students write a summary of the main events in “Rosie, a Visiting Dog’s Story.” They can use the following four questions as prompts:

* What is the selection about?
* What basic obedience skills did Rosie learn?
* What specific skills did she need to learn?
* What new friends did Rosie make on the job and how did she cheer them up?

**Level 2:** Write a description: Think of a dog or another pet that you know and like. Write a paragraph to help readers form a picture of the pet in their minds. Tell how the pet looks, feels and sounds. Explain why the pet is special. Use vivid words and phrases. Next, do the same thing for Rosie. After you’ve written both paragraphs, create a t-chart noting the similarities between your dog/pet and Rosie and the major differences.

**Level 3:** Put on your thinking caps and pretend Rosie could talk. She can only talk to you long enough to answer a total of five questions. What do you think she would say about how it makes her feel to help other people? What do you think is her the favorite part of her job? What do you think is her least favorite part of the job? What other two questions would you ask her? Write at least five paragraphs, summarizing your conversation with Rosie. Remember to use logical reasoning why you think she would say certain things. Be sure to include your questions AND her answers in your writing.

**Level 4:** Make a survey that asks your classmates about your pets. You might ask what kinds of pets they have and how many, what care their pets require, or how much time they spend playing with their pets. Then prepare a written report and a chart/graph to display your survey results. Show examples of a bar graph, a pie graph and a line graph and discuss the best uses for each.