Animal Math

Activity 4 - Your Life as a Dog

Everyone knows that puppies grow a lot faster than children. Because of how fast they grow, people have long believed that one human year is equal to seven dog years. For example, if you got your dog as a puppy and have had her for eight years, your dog would be said to be fifty six dog years old. Some people believe that if you are seven years old you would only be one year old in dog years. This belief is actually incorrect!

Since a puppy reaches adult hood within two years of being born, there is a more accurate way to calculate your age in dog years.

To convert a dog's age to how old the dog would if it were a person use the following mathematical steps:

- 1. Add 10.5 years for the first two years of a dog's life
- 2. Add four years for each year of its life after that. For example, if you bought a new puppy and it is now four human years old, here is how to calculate the dog's age in dog years:

Year 1: 10.5

Year 2: 10.5

Year 3: 4

Year 4: 4

Total = 29

Activity Questions:

- 1. If your dog is eight years old in human years, how many dog-years-old would he be?
- 2. How many human-years-old would a dog have to be to be considered as old as a 33 year-old person?
- 3. Can you figure out how old you are in dog years?

Can you believe THIS is math?