

A Dog Named Triumph

Suggested Grade Level 5

Objective

Write a news story that summarizes what happened to Triumph the dog using the information you find at www.triumphthedog.net.

Materials

- AVMA poster
- Library
- Internet access

Procedure

- The teacher shows a photo of Triumph the dog and explains the role that veterinarians played in the biomedical research involving Triumph.
- The teacher has the students research what happened to Triumph and when it happened and create a timeline.
- Students now pretend that they are reporters for a local newspaper and have the assignment of explaining to readers what has happened with Triumph. Each student writes a news story that would appear in the paper explaining the significance of the medical research with Triumph and what it could mean for the future of humans who have a similar disability. Students should include who, what, why, where, and how information in their story. They should begin with a short title that will spark the reader's interest and inspire them into wanting to read more about this amazing dog.
- Additional activities: Have students create a list of questions that they
 still have and would like answered about Triumph. As a class, select the
 three most important or interesting questions and send them to Moe
 (Triumph's caregiver) at www.triumphthedog.net.
- Have students collect photos of Triumph from the Internet that tell her story. Arrange the photos on a bulletin board with captions to explain each photo.

National Standards:

Language Arts

- Writing elements
- Research

Science

- Scientific inquiry
- Science and technology

Ideas to extend this lesson

Students see what other biomedical research they can locate involving animals by conducting a Web search. What animals were involved? What was the hypothesis? How has the animal or human world been affected by this research?

