

Anger at royal child feeding dog ice cream

26th July, 2016



A photo of the three-year-old son of Britain's Prince William has made animal rights groups angry. The photo is one of four released by the royal family to celebrate the third birthday of William's son, Prince George. It shows him

sitting on the grass offering white chocolate ice cream to his pet dog. An animal charity immediately issued a warning to all pet owners about giving ice cream and chocolate to pets. The charity is the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA). It said although Prince George was just trying to be kind to his dog, it wasn't a good thing to do because chocolate and ice cream are bad for dogs. The RSPCA charity said it did not advise others to follow the child's example.

Some people have defended the photo and said Prince George is not wrong. They said a three-year-old does not know which things are dangerous for dogs. They said he was just playing like any child, and being kind to his pet. They also pointed out that the dog was not actually eating the ice cream in the photo. The RSPCA said: "It is lovely that Prince George is trying to help keep his family dog cool in high temperatures [but] we would advise pet owners to be cautious when giving their dogs food meant for human consumption as some items, like chocolate, can be highly toxic to dogs and dairy items can be difficult for them to digest." Chocolate poisons dogs, and can lead to a dog's death. Darker chocolate is more dangerous.

Sources: *time.com* / *Huffington Post* / *The Guardian.com*

Writing

What are the good and bad things about being a pet (for an animal)?

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

photo / animal rights / royal family / third birthday / warning / ice cream / advise / dangerous / high temperatures / cautious / food / dairy items / digest / poison

True / False

- Photos were released for a British prince's third birthday. T / F
- A photo shows the child sitting on a picnic table. T / F
- The child is offering his dog some dark chocolate ice cream. T / F
- Ice cream is good for dogs. T / F
- People said a 3-year-old should know not to give a dog ice cream. T / F
- The dog was not eating the ice cream in the photo. T / F
- It is difficult for dogs to digest dairy products. T / F
- Chocolate can kill dogs. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| 1. released | a. piece of advice |
| 2. immediately | b. very |
| 3. warning | c. lead |
| 4. advise | d. supported |
| 5. example | e. made available |
| 6. defended | f. really |
| 7. actually | g. break down |
| 8. cautious | h. recommend |
| 9. highly | i. careful |
| 10. digest | j. instantly |

Discussion – Student A

- What do you think about what you read?
- What rights do animals have?
- Should animal rights groups be angry about the photo?
- What food is dangerous for animals?
- Why do people have pets?
- Why are dogs good pets?
- Do you think all pet food is good for pets?
- What do you know about Prince George?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1. The photo is one of four | a. owners |
| 2. It shows him sitting | b. thing to do |
| 3. issued a warning to all pet | c. consumption |
| 4. it wasn't a good | d. temperatures |
| 5. it did not advise others to follow | e. released by the royal family |
| 6. a three-year- | f. lead to a dog's death |
| 7. keep his family dog cool in high | g. to digest |
| 8. food meant for human | h. the child's example |
| 9. dairy items can be difficult for them | i. old |
| 10. Chocolate poisons dogs, and can | j. on the grass |

Discussion – Student B

- Is keeping an animal as a pet against its rights?
- What do you think of the photo?
- What dangers to pets are there in the home?
- What animal is the best pet?
- Should Prince William have not released the photo?
- What do you think of ice cream?
- What do you think of royal families?
- What questions would you like to ask the RSPCA?

Spelling

- animal sihgtr groups
- eedlars by the royal family
- btleereac the third birthday
- ussied a warning
- yuterlc to animals
- it did not isvdae others to follow
- people have deenefdd the photo
- which things are eruangsdo for dogs
- the dog was not llyuaact eating the ice
- cool in high prueetatesrm
- items, like chocolate, can be highly oixct
- chocolate iopsnso dogs

Answers – Synonym Match

| | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. e | 2. j | 3. a | 4. h | 5. c |
| 6. d | 7. f | 8. i | 9. b | 10. g |

Role Play

Role A – Put clothes on it

You think putting clothes on a dog is the worst thing you can do to it. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which of these a dog would least dislike: dying its fur, never walking it or feeding it human food.

Role B – Dye its fur

You think dyeing a dog's fur is the worst thing you can do to it. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which of these a dog would least dislike: putting clothes on it, never walking it or feeding it human food.

Role C – Never walk it

You think never walking a dog is the worst thing you can do to it. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which of these a dog would least dislike: dying its fur, putting clothes on it or feeding it human food.

Role D – Feed it human food

You think feeding a dog human food is the worst thing you can do to it. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which of these a dog would least dislike: dying its fur, never walking it or putting clothes on it.

Speaking – Bad idea

Rank these with your partner. Put the worst things to do to a dog at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| • Put clothes on it | • Leave a dog in car |
| • Dye its fur | • Make it live outside |
| • Hit it | • Call it 'Fido' |
| • Never walk it | • Feed it human food |

Answers – True False

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| a | T | b | F | c | F | d | F | e | F | f | T | g | T | h | T |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.