

## Dog three times heavier than normal goes on diet

7th December, 2020



A dog in the USA had to go on a diet. He is a beagle called Wolfgang. He was three times heavier than a normal beagle. This was very dangerous for his health. He risked having many different canine diseases and

problems. Poor Wolfgang was in an animal shelter. His owner abandoned him and left him at the shelter. The owner also overfed Wolfgang, so he ballooned in size. Many visitors came to the shelter for a dog, but no one took Wolfgang because he was so big. Then, dog lover Erin McManus came to the rescue. She saw Wolfgang at the shelter and it was love at first sight. She took the overweight dog home and decided to help him lose weight. She put him on a crash diet.

Wolfgang is now doing very well on his diet. He is limited to just 600 calories a day. He swims in the family pool every day, goes on walks, and exercises on a water treadmill. The kgs are now falling off him. Ms McManus is very happy with his progress. She said: "I make his food. It's lean turkey, lots of vegetables, and some supplements." She said he has lost over 12kgs. Beagles usually weigh around 13kgs, but Wolfgang weighed 40kgs. He now has his own Instagram account with over 37,000 followers. McManus said: "I think his personality shines through. He's just such a nice dog. It's so hard to say no to that face." One Instagram fan wrote: "I love following his journey. That boy touches my heart."

Sources: [insideedition.com](http://insideedition.com) / [azfamily.com](http://azfamily.com) / [fox29.com](http://fox29.com)

## Writing

Pet owners who overfeed or do not exercise their pets should be fined. Discuss.

## Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

diet / heavier / three times / dangerous / health / shelter / diseases / big / dog lover / doing well / pool / swim / exercise / vegetables / supplements / followers / personality

## True / False

- a) A dog in the USA decided to go on a diet. T / F
- b) The dog risked having feline and avian diseases. T / F
- c) The dog was overfed and so he ballooned in size. T / F
- d) The dog was put on a crash diet by his new owner. T / F
- e) Wolfgang the dog cannot have more than 600 calories a day. T / F
- f) The calories are falling on the dog. T / F
- g) Wolfgang the beagle has already lost over 13kgs. T / F
- h) A fan of the dog wants to touch his heart. T / F

## Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1. <b>called</b>      | a. development |
| 2. <b>dangerous</b>   | b. puffed up   |
| 3. <b>shelter</b>     | c. character   |
| 4. <b>ballooned</b>   | d. chose       |
| 5. <b>decided</b>     | e. home        |
| 6. <b>limited</b>     | f. supporters  |
| 7. <b>progress</b>    | g. named       |
| 8. <b>followers</b>   | h. moves       |
| 9. <b>personality</b> | i. restricted  |
| 10. <b>touches</b>    | j. unsafe      |

## Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What do you know about your calorie intake?
- c) How good are treadmills for exercising?
- d) What do you think of Wolfgang's diet?
- e) In what ways does your personality shine?
- f) What three adjectives best describe this story?
- g) What advice do you have for Erin?
- h) What questions would you like to ask Erin?

## Phrase Match

- |                                    |                            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. A dog in the USA had            | a. journey                 |
| 2. He was three times heavier than | b. he was so big           |
| 3. His owner abandoned him and     | c. well on his diet        |
| 4. no one took Wolfgang because    | d. my heart                |
| 5. it was love                     | e. a normal beagle         |
| 6. Wolfgang is now doing very      | f. falling off him         |
| 7. The kgs are now                 | g. left him at the shelter |
| 8. I think his personality         | h. at first sight          |
| 9. I love following his            | i. shines through          |
| 10. That boy touches               | j. to go on a diet         |

## Discussion – Student B

- Have you ever been on a diet?
- What is the best way to diet?
- How happy or unhappy are you with your weight?
- What do you think of overfed pets?
- Why do people abandon pets?
- Should owners who abandon pets be fined?
- How much of a dog lover are you?
- What do people do on a crash diet?

## Spelling

- having many different acinne diseases
- His owner bnadaned him
- so he lboolnaed in size
- McManus came to the esruce
- She took the vroiewgeht dog home
- She put him on a carsh diet
- limited to just 600 arolices a day
- exercises on a water deatmirll
- very happy with his rgpeross
- vegetables and some uplsemენტs
- I think his nrspelaoity shines through
- I love following his ujnroey

### Answers – Synonym Match

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

## Role Play

### Role A – A Dog

You think a dog is the best pet. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the least fun of these (and why): a goldfish, a horse or a rabbit.

### Role B – A Goldfish

You think a goldfish is the best pet. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the least fun of these (and why): a dog, a horse or a rabbit.

### Role C – A Horse

You think a horse is the best pet. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the least fun of these (and why): a goldfish, a dog or a rabbit.

### Role D – A Rabbit

You think a rabbit is the best pet. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the least fun of these (and why): a goldfish, a horse or a dog.

## Speaking – Pets

Rank these with your partner. Put the best pets at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| • Cat       | • Dog      |
| • Tarantula | • Rabbit   |
| • Horse     | • Parrot   |
| • Tortoise  | • Goldfish |

### Answers – True False

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

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.