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Fact Sheet: Labrador Retriever

Dog type: gundog

History:

- Black labrador-type dogs were first seen around Labrador in Newfoundland, Canada in 1822.
- Later in the century the Earl of Malmesbury took some to England and bred these dogs with English retrievers as gun dogs to retrieve birds when they had been shot during a 'hunt' or a 'shoot'. They are especially good at retrieving game from lakes and ponds.
- The Earl gave 'Labradors' their name in 1887 and the Kennel Club recognised them as a breed in 1903.

Do you know....?

- Labradors come in three colours: black, yellow (dark or light) and dark brown (chocolate).
- Labradors have a tail that looks a little like an otter's tail!
- Labradors work as guide and hearing dogs for people with disabilities, as search and rescue dogs, as drug detection dogs with the police, and as retrievers in field trials.

Labradors as pets:

- Need plenty of exercise, enjoy swimming.
- Patient with children and good family dogs.
- Easy to train.