

**My Weekly Reader™**

Vol. 71 No. 6 ISSN 0736-055X  
March 2015 ■ Edition 2

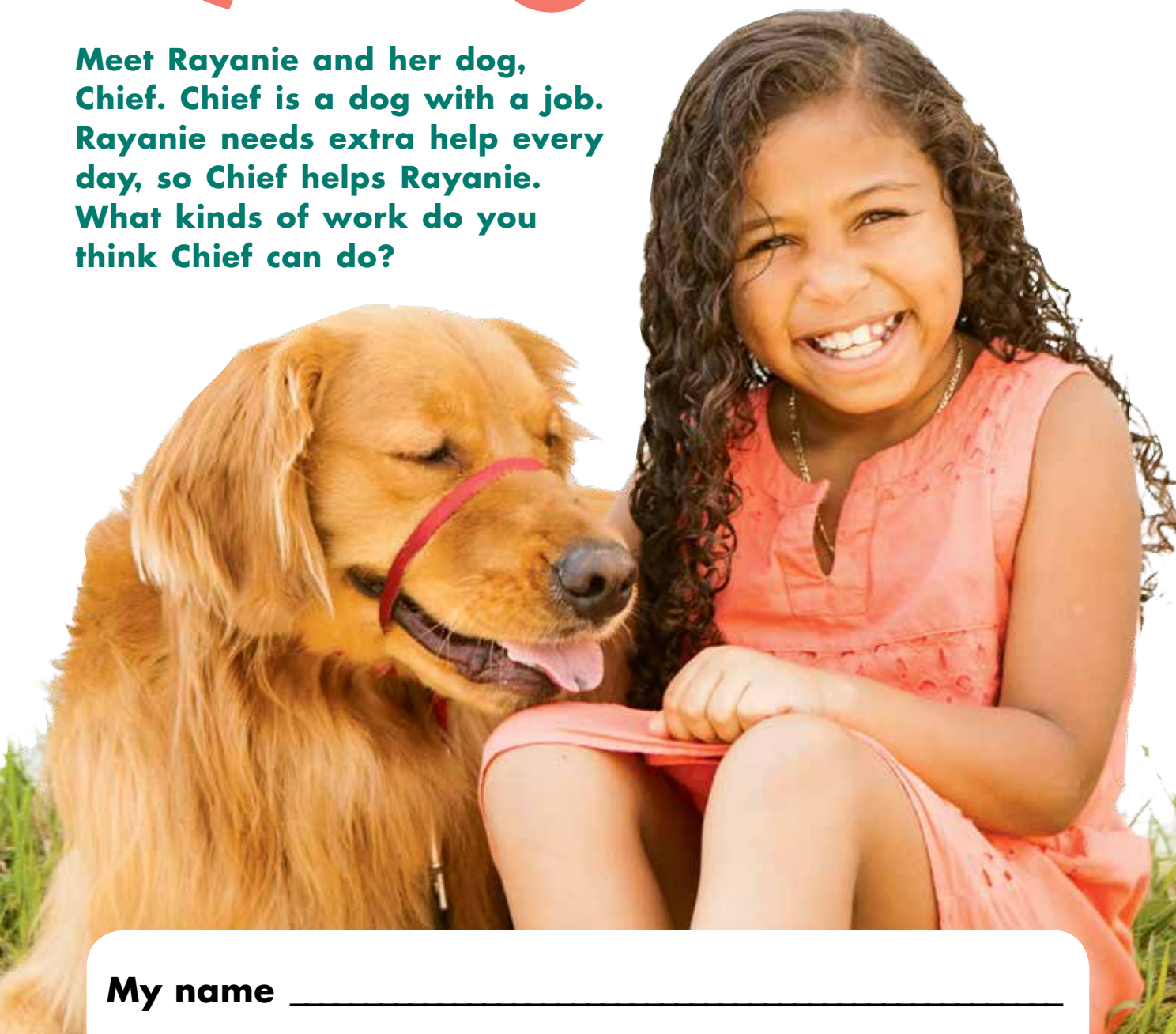
**SCHOLASTIC**  
**News®**

Go to [www.scholastic.com/sn2](http://www.scholastic.com/sn2)  
for videos of Rayanie and  
Chief, core skills activities,  
and Spanish editions.



# My Dog, Chief

Meet Rayanie and her dog,  
Chief. Chief is a dog with a job.  
Rayanie needs extra help every  
day, so Chief helps Rayanie.  
What kinds of work do you  
think Chief can do?



**My name** \_\_\_\_\_



Chief puts his head on Rayanie's lap to calm her down.



## Chief's Commands

Chief knows a lot of **commands**. Those are words that tell him what to do.

Some days, Rayanie feels sick. She doesn't feel well enough to call for her parents. So she says, "Chief, speak!" and Chief barks. Chief doesn't usually bark in the house, so when Rayanie's parents hear him barking, they know something is wrong. They come to help Rayanie.

Chief knows other commands too. If Rayanie says, "Nudge," Chief will use his nose to push a light switch on. If she says, "Get dressed," Chief knows it's time to wear his vest.



Chief barks when Rayanie says, "Speak!"

Chief wears a red vest when it's time for him to work.

## A Furry Friend

Chief is a good friend for Rayanie. He cuddles with her and makes her feel happy. He sits while she practices reading to him. Rayanie's mom says, "He enjoys all the books!"

Rayanie takes good care of Chief too. She feeds him and brushes his fur and teeth. She takes him for walks.

And she has one more fun command for Chief. When she says, "Free time," he knows it's time to play! Chief and Rayanie run around, play hide-and-seek, and play fetch. Rayanie says, "I love Chief a lot!"

# A Dog With a Job

Like many kids, Rayanie has a dog. Her dog's name is Chief, and he can sit, lie down, and shake hands. But Chief can also do things other dogs can't do. He can turn on lights and call for help.

Chief is a **service dog**, which is a dog with a job. He helps Rayanie in many ways.

## Hardworking Dog

Rayanie was born with Williams syndrome. Kids who have this must

go to the doctor a lot. Rayanie used to get really nervous about going to the doctor. But now, Chief helps her. He puts his head in Rayanie's lap. Rayanie pets him and scratches his ears. That calms her down.

Chief helps in other ways too. Sometimes Rayanie has trouble sleeping. She used to get up and walk around the house. Now Chief sleeps on her floor. If Rayanie wakes up in the night, she lies down next to Chief and goes back to sleep.

Rayanie and her mom take Chief for a walk.



## Service Animal Chart



### Avalanche Dog

In an avalanche, people can get trapped under the snow. Other people can't hear them call for help. Avalanche dogs sniff for trapped people. The dogs bark and dig if they find someone.



### Service Horse

This is a **miniature** horse. It is very small. Service horses help in many ways. They pick things up for people with their mouths. People who need help walking can hold on to them. This horse wears shoes so it doesn't slip!



shoes

1. Which animal wears shoes?

avalanche dog

service horse

Chief

2. What does **miniature** mean?

a lot of snow

very small

trained to help

3. What can service horses help people do?

sniff for trapped people

turn on lights

walk

4. What is something Chief and an avalanche dog both do?

bark if someone needs help

turn on a light

sniff for people under the snow

Bonus

What is a service animal? Write a definition.

---

---