

I'd Rather Have a Dog

By Cherie Stihler

We have a llama
His name is Sam.
I'd rather have a dog
And I wouldn't care what his name is.

Sam is nice.
But he's not a dog.

I tried to teach Sam to sit.
But he smashed my sister's rocket
project.

When Sam and I practiced rolling over,
Sam ate my dad's favorite flowers.

I sure wish Sam could sleep curled up
on my bed.
We broke my bed the last time we
tried.

Sam likes to go out for a walk just like
dogs.
But he likes to wear his hats. I bet
most dogs don't wear hats.

And like most dogs, it is really hard to
get Sam to take a bath
well. that is a bath without his rubber
ducky and a tub full of bubbles.

In the winter he pulls our sleds.
But I've seen dogs do that too.

Sam pulled my kite out of the tree last
week.
A dog would probably not be able to
reach.
But of course, then - Sam ate my kite.

Sam likes to fetch balls and sticks.
Sometimes they get all slobbery.
Sometimes he eats them. But dogs do

that too.

Sam likes his saddle.
I guess I wouldn't be able to ride on
most dogs.

Sam is pretty good at holding the end
of a jump rope.
You just have to make sure Sam doesn't
EAT the jump rope.
Most dogs probably cannot play jump
rope with you.

Sam likes to carry the picnic basket.
And he's pretty good at playing catcher.

Maybe it is a good thing Sam is not a
dog.
It sure would be awful if
he got fleas.

Sam doesn't bite, or
chase the mailman.
And I never have to take
Sam for a walk.
Sam doesn't bark all night
- although
some
times
he does
snore.

Sam is
sure
nice.
So I guess
I'm glad
he's not a
dog.

