



Pet Care

Name _____

Caring for a pet requires taking responsibility for another living thing. Some pets require a lot more time, energy, and money than others. Some require a lot of love and attention. Whichever animal you choose, a pet can bring you years of fun and enjoyment.

Do all of the following requirements (1-2)

- _____ 1. Select a pet to care for. It may be one of your pets or the pet of a friend or relative.
- _____ 2. Describe proper safety precautions for handling pets and encountering unfamiliar animals including hand washing and first aid for bites and scratches.
- _____ 3. Make a one-month pet care chart listing all the required care for you give to your pet including feeding, cleaning, exercising, medicines, and housing needs. Then provide all the care for your pet for at least one month.
- _____ 4. List the key pet laws in your community including:
 - _____ a. What animals may be kept as pets and how many are allowed
 - _____ b. License and leash laws
 - _____ c. Laws against cruelty to animals
 - _____ d. Any laws specific to your pet.
- _____ 5. Make an expense budget for your pet including costs for:
 - _____ a. Food, leashes, bowls, toys, cleaning /grooming products, and medicine
 - _____ b. Cost of cages, aquariums, crates, or other housing items
 - _____ c. Vet visits and required shots
- _____ 6. Identify at least two diseases that your pet can get and spread, such as Lyme disease and rabies and do the following:
 - _____ a. Describe what is being done to control these diseases.
 - _____ b. Explain what you can do to prevent your pet from getting these diseases.
 - _____ c. Explain what to do if you suspect an animal is infected with rabies.



Do three of the following optional requirements from any topic (7-19)

- _____ 7. List the food preferences and nutritional needs for your pet.
- _____ 8. Train your pet in three or more tricks or special abilities.
- _____ 9. Visit a dog show and do part a and part b or c:
 - _____ a. Define the terms "pedigree" and "purebred."
 - _____ b. Obtain a list of the criteria for a "purebred" and explain it.
 - _____ c. Obtain the criteria for judging three different breeds of dogs
- _____ 10. Learn how to keep baby fish alive in an aquarium and get the extra equipment required. Then breed some fish.
- _____ 11. Make a one-month pet care chart listing all the required care for you to give to a second different kind of pet including feeding, cleaning, exercising, medicines, and housing needs. Then provide all the pet care for that pet for at least one month.
- _____ 12. Care for the pet of a neighbor, friend, or relative while they are away for a weekend.
- _____ 13. Help a neighbor, friend, or relative care for their pet by doing tasks for them such as taking their dog for a walk, giving their pet a bath, or cleaning their pet's cage(s).
- _____ 14. Find a place in your community to do volunteer work with animals such as the Humane Society, a local animal shelter, the SPCA, or an animal clinic and volunteer for at least 5 hours.
- _____ 15. Tell a younger Unit or Patrol about your pet and the local laws governing your pet using a visual presentation (board, PowerPoint, or movie) and if appropriate show them your pet. The visual presentation may include: a picture of your pet and information such as name, age, size, gender, breed or kind, special characteristics, abilities, how you got your pet, or a special story about it.
- _____ 16. Visit a veterinary hospital, dog training facility, or animal shelter in your area. Explain what they do there and list the kinds of animals they specialize in.
- _____ 17. Dogs are sometimes trained for certain jobs such working with persons with disabilities, search and rescue, and with law or drug enforcement. Visit someone who trains service dogs and find out how they do it or how the dog is used to assist its owner. Find out the following:
 - _____ a. Are there certain breeds that are best for this training?
 - _____ b. How long does their training take?
 - _____ c. Is it expensive?
 - _____ d. What qualifications or education do you need for a career in this field?

_____18. Visit a person in your community who has a career dealing with pets at their workplace and discuss his work with him.

_____19. Invite a person in your community who has a career dealing with pets to come and talk about the work he does at a troop meeting.

Trail Badge Mentor Signature

Date

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