

Small Animal Care I

8081 18 weeks

8083 36 weeks

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Acknowledgments

The components of this instructional framework were developed by the following curriculum development team members:

Karen Bowles, Veterinary Science Instructor and Licensed Veterinary Technician, Advanced Career Education Center at Hermitage
Laurie Damron, Instructor and Certified Veterinary Assistant, Massanutten Technical Center
Laura Delano, Instructor and Certified Veterinary Assistant, Culpeper County High School
Dr. Carmen Franck Vaughn, DVM, Veterinarian, Carmen Franck Vaughn, DVM PLLC
Dr. Carter Hounsel, DVM, Supervisory Veterinary Medical Officer and Emergency Coordinator, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service: Veterinary Services
Anne Hudson, Instructor and Licensed Veterinary Technician, College and Career Academy at Pruden
Karen Nestlerode, Veterinary Science Instructor, Edison Academy
Katie Reames, Director of Feed and Nutrition Services, CFC Farm and Home Center
Debra Rosson, Veterinary Science Instructor and Licensed Veterinary Technician, New Horizons Career and Technical Center
Kathryn Simunich, Instructor and Certified Pet Groomer, Louisa County High School
Theresa Thompson, Instructor and Certified Veterinary Assistant, Stuarts Draft High School
Valerie Webb, Agriculture Instructor, Spotsylvania High School
Amanda Wooden, Animal Import Coordinator, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Correlations to the Virginia Standards of Learning were reviewed and completed by:

Vickie L. Inge, Mathematics Committee Member, Virginia Mathematics and Science Coalition
Anne F. Markwith, New Teacher Mentor, Gloucester County Public Schools
Cathy Nichols-Cocke, PhD, Fairfax High School, Fairfax County Public Schools
Caroline C. Wheeler, M.T., Secondary English, Richmond

The framework was edited and produced by the CTE Resource Center:

Robin A. Jedlicka, Writer/Editor
Kevin P. Reilly, Administrative Coordinator

LaVeta M. Nutter, Specialist, Agricultural Education and Related Clusters
Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education
Virginia Department of Education

Dr. Tricia S. Jacobs, CTE Coordinator of Curriculum and Instruction
Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education
Virginia Department of Education

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Course Description

Suggested Grade Level: 9 or 10 or 11 or 12

Students learn how to care for and manage small animals, focusing on instructional areas in animal health, nutrition, management, reproduction, and evaluation. Course content also includes instruction on the tools, equipment, and facilities for small animal care, and provides activities to foster leadership development. Live animal handling may occur. The National FFA Organization, Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE), or related student organization activities are encouraged.

As noted in [Superintendent's Memo #058-17 \(2-28-2017\)](#), this Career and Technical Education (CTE) course must maintain a maximum pupil-to-teacher ratio of 20 students to one teacher, due to safety regulations. The 2016-2018 biennial budget waiver of the teacher-to-pupil ratio staffing requirement does not apply.

Task Essentials Table

8081	8083	Tasks/Competencies
+	+	Identify the role of supervised agricultural experiences (SAEs) in agricultural education.
+	+	Participate in an SAE.
+	+	Identify the benefits and responsibilities of FFA membership.

<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe leadership characteristics and opportunities as they relate to agriculture and FFA.
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Apply for an FFA degree and/or an agricultural proficiency award.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Use parliamentary procedure.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Deliver a speech or presentation.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Participate in a committee meeting.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Participate in an FFA community service project.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Examine the roles of pets with humans throughout history.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe career opportunities in the small animal care industry.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the nature of the work and the salaries in the small animal care industry.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify safety issues related to working in the small animal care industry.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Demonstrate respect for and safe treatment of classroom animals.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify the specific physical characteristics of cats.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify common breeds of cats.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a cat.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the nutritional requirements of cats.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the housing and equipment requirements of cats.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Care for a cat.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how cats reproduce.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify the growth stages of a cat.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the care of a litter.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how to maintain a healthy cat.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify the specific physical characteristics of dogs.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify common breeds of dogs.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a dog.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the nutritional requirements of dogs.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the housing and equipment requirements of dogs.

<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Care for a dog.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how dogs reproduce.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify the growth stages of a dog.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the care of a litter.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how to maintain a healthy dog.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify the specific physical characteristics of rabbits.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify common breeds of rabbits.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a rabbit.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the nutritional requirements of rabbits.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the housing and equipment requirements of rabbits.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Care for a rabbit.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how rabbits reproduce.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify the growth stages of a rabbit.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the care of a litter.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how to maintain a healthy rabbit.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify specific physical and behavioral characteristics of common pet rodents.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a rodent.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the nutritional requirements of rodents.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the housing and equipment requirements of rodents.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Care for a rodent.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how rodents reproduce.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify the growth stages of rodents.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the care of a litter.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how to maintain a healthy pet rodent.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify the specific physical characteristics of guinea pigs.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify common breeds of guinea pigs.

<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a guinea pig.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the nutritional requirements of guinea pigs.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the housing and equipment requirements of guinea pigs.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Care for a guinea pig.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how guinea pigs reproduce.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify the growth stages of a guinea pig.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the care of a litter.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how to maintain a healthy guinea pig.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify specific physical and behavioral characteristics of common of pet birds.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify common species of pet birds.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a bird.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the nutritional requirements of birds.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the housing and equipment requirements of birds.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Care for a bird.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how birds reproduce.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify the growth stages of a bird.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the care of nestlings.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how to maintain a healthy pet bird.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify the various categories of fish suitable for home aquariums.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify common species of pet fish.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a fish.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the nutritional requirements of fish.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the habitat and equipment requirements of fish.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Care for a fish.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how fish reproduce.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify the growth stages of a fish.

<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the care of fry and fingerlings.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how to maintain a healthy aquarium.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify specific physical and behavioral characteristics of common pet reptiles, amphibians, and other specialized animals of general interest.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify common species of pet reptiles and amphibians.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a pet reptile and/or amphibian.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the nutritional requirements of reptiles and amphibians.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the housing and equipment requirements of reptiles/amphibians.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Care for a reptile/amphibian.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how reptiles and amphibians reproduce.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify the growth stages of reptiles and amphibians.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the care of a clutch/hatchlings.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how to maintain a healthy terrarium.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify specific physical and behavioral characteristics of common pet specialty/exotic animals.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify common breeds/species of pet specialty/exotic animals.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a specialty/exotic animal.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the nutritional requirements of various specialty/exotic animals.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain the housing and equipment requirements of various specialty/exotic animals.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Care for a specialty/exotic animal.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how various specialty/exotic animals reproduce.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Identify the growth stages of various specialty/exotic animals.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Describe the care of a litter of various specialty/exotic animals.
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Explain how to maintain a healthy specialty/exotic animal.

Legend: Essential Non-essential Omitted

Note: Competencies 39-43 have been added to ensure compliance with federal legislation: National FFA Organization's Federal Charter Amendments Act (Public Law 116-7, <https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ7/PLAW-116publ7.pdf>). All inquiries may be sent to

cte@doe.virginia.gov. Students are provided opportunities for leadership, personal growth, and career success. Instruction is delivered through three major components: classroom and laboratory instruction, supervised agricultural experience (SAE) program, and student leadership (FFA).

Curriculum Framework

Task Number 39

Identify the role of supervised agricultural experiences (SAEs) in agricultural education.

Definition

Identification should include

- defining an SAE program as *an opportunity for students to consider multiple careers and occupations in the agriculture, food, and natural resources (AFNR) industries, learn expected workplace behavior, develop specific skills within an industry, and apply academic and occupational skills in the workplace or a simulated workplace environment*
- researching the Foundational SAE
 - career exploration and planning
 - personal financial planning and management
 - workplace safety
 - employability skills for college and career readiness
 - agricultural literacy
- researching the Immersion SAE
 - entrepreneurship/ownership
 - placement/internships
 - research (experimental, analytical, invention)
 - school business enterprises
 - service learning
- developing a plan to participate in an SAE, based on personal and career goals
- researching available awards and degrees, based on SAE participation.

Teacher resource: [SAE Resources](#), National Council for Agricultural Education

Process/Skill Questions

- What are examples of SAEs related to this course and in the AFNR industries?
- Where can a copy of the Virginia SAE Record Book be found?
- What is an Immersion SAE?
- How does a placement/internship SAE differ from an ownership/entrepreneurship SAE?

- How does an SAE provide relevant work experience and contribute to the development of critical thinking skills?
- How is the SAE an extended individualized instructional component of a student's Career Plan of Study?
- How can an SAE be used to provide evidence of student growth and participation in authentic, work-related tasks?
- What are the four types of SAEs?
- What are the advantages of participating in work-based learning experiences and projects?
- How does one choose an appropriate SAE in which to participate?

Task Number 40

Participate in an SAE.

Definition

Participation should include

- developing, completing, or continuing a plan to participate in an SAE as a work-based learning experience, based on personal and career goals
- documenting experience, connections, positions held, and competencies attained, using the *Virginia SAE Record Book*
- researching available awards and degrees, based on SAE participation.

Teacher resources:

[FFA SAE](#)

[The Agricultural Experience Tracker](#)

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the advantages of participating in work-based learning experiences and projects?
- How do SAEs help prepare students for the workforce?
- What are some examples of SAEs in AFNR?

Exploring Leadership Opportunities through FFA

Task Number 41

Identify the benefits and responsibilities of FFA membership.

Definition

Identification should include

- benefits
 - listing opportunities to participate in community improvement projects and career development events (CDEs) and leadership development events (LDEs)
 - exploring leadership development opportunities
- responsibilities
 - researching the responsibilities of FFA officers, committees, and members
 - locating resources that guide participation in FFA activities
 - explaining the FFA Creed, Motto, Salute, and mission statement
 - explaining the meaning of the FFA emblem, colors, and symbols
 - explaining significant events and the history of the organization.

Process/Skill Questions

- How does one become an FFA member?
- What is the FFA's mission and how does it accomplish its mission?
- What are the benefits and responsibilities of FFA membership?
- What five FFA activities are available through the local chapter?
- What are some significant events in FFA history? How have these events shaped membership over time?
- What is the FFA program of activities (POA), and how is it used?

Task Number 42

Describe leadership characteristics and opportunities as they relate to agriculture and FFA.

Definition

Description should include

- examples of successful leaders
- types of leadership
 - autocratic
 - participative
 - laissez-faire
 - servant
 - followership
- positive leadership qualities and traits of successful leaders
- opportunities for participating in leadership activities in FFA
- demonstrating methods for conducting an effective meeting.

Process/Skill Questions

- Who are some successful leaders in the agriculture industry?
- What qualities make a successful leader?

- What are leadership traits?
- What is the difference between positive and negative leadership?

Task Number 43

Apply for an FFA degree and/or an agricultural proficiency award.

Definition

Application should include

- identifying types of FFA degrees
 - Greenhand
 - Chapter
 - State
 - American
- identifying proficiency award areas
 - entrepreneurship
 - placement
 - combined
 - agriscience research
- exploring CDEs and LDEs related to this course
- identifying all SAE criteria to be eligible for the award
- identifying the type of award
- applying for an FFA award.

Teacher resource: [FFA Agricultural Proficiency Awards](#)

Process/Skill Questions

- Where are the awards and their application criteria located?
- What are the benefits of winning an FFA award?
- What are the benefits and requirements of an FFA degree?
- What FFA awards are available?
- How does the FFA degree program reward FFA members in all phases of leadership, skills, and occupational development?
- What is the highest degree that can be conferred upon an FFA member at the national level?
- What are the requirements for a Greenhand FFA degree?

Practicing Leadership Skills

Task Number 44

Use parliamentary procedure.

Definition

Use of parliamentary procedure should include

- defining terms related to parliamentary procedure
- explaining the importance of using parliamentary procedure
- exploring the opportunities for use of parliamentary procedure in a meeting
- adhering to *Robert's Rules of Order* to conduct business in a meeting
- examining the various motions and their significance
- identifying the duties of the chair in a meeting.

Process/Skill Questions

- When is parliamentary procedure used within the community?
- Why are the rules of parliamentary procedure followed?
- What could be some consequences of not using parliamentary procedure?
- What are the duties of the chairman of a meeting?
- What are the different types of motions?

Task Number 45

Deliver a speech or presentation.

Definition

Delivery should include

- explaining the steps involved in speech preparation
- explaining the rules for the National FFA Organization public speaking Career Development Events (CDE)
- exploring the impact of facial expressions and body language
- identifying and expanding a topic of interest
- being factual and using reliable sources
- rehearsing the presentation
- adhering to time requirements
- incorporating visual aids and a variety of media, as allowed
- following guidelines for an FFA Leadership CDE, if preparing for a contest.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the steps in preparing and delivering a speech?
- What opportunities exist for public speaking in FFA?
- What future opportunities exist for public speaking?
- Why is it important to be able to give oral presentations?
- Why is creating an outline an important step when preparing a speech or a demonstration?

Task Number 46

Participate in a committee meeting.

Definition

Participation may include

- conducting the meeting, if committee chairman
- defining participants' roles
- discussing business
- passing motions
- reporting to the presiding authority.

Process/Skill Questions

- Why is an agenda a crucial part of a meeting?
- Why is it important to have a committee structure?

Task Number 47

Participate in an FFA community service project.

Definition

Participation should include performing beneficial work for the community in conjunction with the FFA Program of Activities.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the benefits of community service to the student? To the community?
- What are some community service projects you could participate in or lead?
- What is the relationship between leadership and community service?

Exploring the Small Animal Care Industry

Task Number 48

Examine the roles of pets with humans throughout history.

Definition

Examination should include an analysis of the current roles of pets in society and an explanation of how these roles have evolved over time.

Process/Skill Questions

- How have the roles of pets evolved since prehistoric times?
- How are the roles of pets in American society similar and different from the roles of pets in other parts of the world?
- How are animals used to help people in therapeutic settings?
- What is the difference between traditional pets and animals trained to assist people with health-related limitations (e.g., guide dogs, helper monkeys)? What are the similarities?

Task Number 49

Describe career opportunities in the small animal care industry.

Definition

Description should include information about careers and positions available in a variety of settings found using Internet resources including the Virginia Department of Education's [Career Planning Guide](#).

Process/Skill Questions

- What types of small animal care jobs are available nationwide?
- How does Virginia compare with other states in the availability of pet care job opportunities?
- What small animal care jobs exist in your locality? Elsewhere in Virginia?
- What types of career opportunities are available in the small animal care industry?

Task Number 50

Describe the nature of the work and the salaries in the small animal care industry.

Definition

Description should include an explanation of the duties associated with several different occupations, including the skills and education required and the salaries/wages paid for each occupation.

Process/Skill Questions

- What resources are available to research occupations in small animal care?
- How do the salaries/wages for small animal care occupations in Virginia compare with the national average?
- What is the importance of English, mathematics, and science courses in preparing for a small animal care career?
- What are wages and salaries? How do they differ? Why is this important information to know?

Exploring Safety and Handling in the Small Animal Industry

Task Number 51

Identify safety issues related to working in the small animal care industry.

Definition

Identification should include

- terminology related to safety issues in the small animal care industry
- types of restraint procedures for handling animals
- zoonotic diseases, methods of transmission, and methods of prevention
- major precautions and procedures for safeguarding the health and safety of animals and workers
- common types of injuries in the small animal care industry
- safety guidelines for handling dangerous chemicals when working with small animals
- personal protective equipment (PPE) used in the small animal care industry.

Process/Skill Questions

- Why is safety important when working and playing with small animals?
- What is a zoonosis?
- What types of diseases, or other health-related problems, can small animals transmit to humans? How are they transmitted?
- What precautions should be taken to prevent being infected by small animals?
- How can small animal care workers protect animals from diseases transmitted from other animals?
- What are the most common types of injuries to people who handle small animals? How can these injuries be prevented?
- What are the proper restraint procedures when working with small animals?
- What is lateral recumbency? What is sternal recumbency?
- What PPE should be worn when working with small animals? How can small animal care workers protect animals from injuries?
- What is an Elizabethan collar? For what purpose is it used?
- Why is it important to understand the dangers of working with disinfectants and insecticides used in the small animal care industry?
- What PPE should be worn when using, storing, or disposing of chemicals?

Task Number 52

Demonstrate respect for and safe treatment of classroom animals.

Definition

Demonstration should include

- handling animals gently with the minimum amount of restraint necessary
- ensuring that animals always have access to food, clean water, sufficient space, and a clean environment
- identifying basic equipment needed for safe treatment (e.g., collar, litter box, bowls)
- avoiding any action or inaction that is dangerous to the animals' health or life
- adhering to all other guidelines provided by the instructor.

Caring for and Managing Cats

Task Number 53

Identify the specific physical characteristics of cats.

Definition

Identification should include physical characteristics such as skeletal features, eyes, ears, coat, and whiskers, and their effects on a cat's functions.

Process/Skill Questions

- What is a cat's scientific classification (i.e., kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species)?
- What physical characteristics contribute to a cat's speed and flexibility? How?
- How are a cat's eyes physically different from the eyes of other animals? What advantages do these special characteristics give the cat?
- Why is it important to protect and care for a cat's coat? What functions does the coat serve?

Task Number 54

Identify common breeds of cats.

Definition

Identification should include the most common breeds of cats, detailing the origin and unique physical and behavioral characteristics of each breed.

Process/Skill Questions

- What common cat breeds are based on place of origin? What breeds are based on physical characteristics?
- What are nonpedigreed cats? Pedigreed cats? How might the two differ?

- What is the difference between a hybrid breed and a natural breed?
- Which cat breeds are tailless? Why?
- Which cat breeds have short tails?
- Why is it important for a small animal care employee to understand the differences among breeds of cats?
- How can knowing the characteristics of the different breeds be helpful in selecting a pet cat?

Task Number 55

Explain the considerations involved in selecting a cat.

Definition

Explanation should include selection based on knowledge of the breed, source, health issues, environmental considerations, and purpose(s).

Process/Skill Questions

- What factors need to be considered prior to selecting a pet cat and bringing it into your home (e.g., Can you afford a cat? Do you have the time for a cat? Do you have the patience to train a cat? What are common pet hazards?)?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of selecting a pedigreed cat as a pet? A mixed-breed?
- What factors should be considered when deciding whether to select a kitten or an adult cat?
- What factors should be considered when deciding whether to select a male or a female cat?
- What are the most common sources for acquiring a pet cat? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each?

Task Number 56

Describe the nutritional requirements of cats.

Definition

Description should include the sources and functions of nutrients needed in the various growth stages of cats.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the best sources of protein for pet cats? Why?
- What problems may arise if a cat is fed milk? Fresh meat or poultry? Liver?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of feeding a cat semi-moist food? Dry foods?
- Why should a cat not be fed dog food on a regular basis?
- How are the nutritional requirements different for kittens, adult cats, and senior cats?

Task Number 57

Explain the housing and equipment requirements of cats.

Definition

Explanation should include the reasons for cats' basic housing and equipment needs.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the advantages and disadvantages of keeping a cat outdoors? Indoors?
- What types of equipment should be in place when a new cat is brought into the home? Why?
- What are the basic types of cat litter available? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each?
- How can the home environment provide exercise and entertainment options for the pet cat? Why are these important?

Task Number 58

Care for a cat.

Definition

Demonstration should reflect industry-accepted methods and procedures for maintaining a healthy cat.

Process/Skill Questions

- Why is grooming important for cats? How are the grooming requirements and equipment different for long-haired and short-haired cats?
- When grooming, what special attention needs to be paid to a cat's ears? Eyes? Teeth? Skin? Why?
- When and how should one give a cat a bath?
- How is the care of kittens and adult cats different?

Task Number 59

Explain how cats reproduce.

Definition

Explanation should include the reproductive process of cats from estrus to birth.

Process/Skill Questions

- What is estrous?
- What is estrus?
- How does the breed of a cat influence when a female cat first comes into heat?
- What are the signs that a female cat is in heat? How long does this period typically last?
- What is the typical mating ritual of cats?
- How long does pregnancy last in cats? What are the characteristics of the major stages of feline pregnancy from conception to delivery?
- What human intervention may be needed once a cat delivers the newborn kitten? Why?

- What are the major considerations when deciding whether to spay or neuter a cat? At what age should a cat be spayed or neutered? Why?

Task Number 60

Identify the growth stages of a cat.

Definition

Identification should include the characteristics and care requirements of the newborn, kitten, adult cat, and aging cat.

Process/Skill Questions

- How does a cat's age influence the type of nutrition it needs? Why?
- What are the primary differences between a newborn cat and a young kitten?
- Why should one not adopt a kitten younger than 6 to 8 weeks old?
- What are the signs that a cat is passing from its adult to its aging phase? At this point, what changes should be initiated by the caregiver?
- To what extent does the breed of cat breed impact its growth stages?

Task Number 61

Describe the care of a litter.

Definition

Description should include all factors—animal and human responsibilities—involved in preparing for and caring for a litter.

Process/Skill Questions

- What preparations are needed when a pet cat appears close to delivering kittens?
- What care should a human provide to newborn kittens and their mother?
- What precautions and care should be taken when taking care of feral newborn kittens?

Task Number 62

Explain how to maintain a healthy cat.

Definition

Explanation should include the components of a wellness check and a list of the signs, treatments, and prevention of the most common diseases and ailments of cats.

Process/Skill Questions

- What is a wellness check? Why are wellness checks important?
- What infectious and non-infectious diseases are common in cats? What are the signs and symptoms of each? How can they be treated? How can they be prevented?
- What internal and external parasites affect cats? What are the symptoms and effects of each? How can they be treated? How can they be prevented?
- What measures should be taken to prevent diseases in cats?
- What cat diseases or other health conditions can be harmful to humans and/or other animals? How can the risk of transmission be reduced or eliminated?
- What vaccinations are important for kittens? For adult cats? Why?

Caring for and Managing Dogs

Task Number 63

Identify the specific physical characteristics of dogs.

Definition

Identification should include physical characteristics such as skeletal features, eyes, ears, coat, and their effects on a dog's functions.

Process/Skill Questions

- What is a dog's scientific classification (i.e., kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species)?
- What are the basic differences between a dog's skeleton and a cat's? How do these differences affect their movement and behavior?
- How does sense of smell vary from one canine breed to another?
- How can a dog's keen sense of smell help the animal on a daily basis? In what ways can a dog's sense of smell help humans?
- In what ways is a dog's hair a form of protection for the animal?
- How does a dog's sense of hearing compare with that of humans? Of other animals? What advantages does this keen sense of hearing give the dog?
- How does the sense of hearing vary from one canine breed to another? Why is this significant?

Task Number 64

Identify common breeds of dogs.

Definition

Identification should include the most common breeds of dogs, detailing the origin and unique physical and behavioral characteristics of each breed.

Process/Skill Questions

- How has the modern dog evolved from prehistoric times?
- What are the most common issues and challenges related to dog breeding?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of maintaining purebred lines?
- How can knowing the characteristics of the different breeds be helpful in selecting a pet dog?

Task Number 65

Explain the considerations involved in selecting a dog.

Definition

Explanation should include selection based on knowledge of the breed, source, health issues, environmental considerations, and purpose(s).

Process/Skill Questions

- What factors need to be considered prior to selecting a pet dog and bringing it into your home (e.g., Can you afford a dog? Do you have the time for a dog? Do you have the patience to train a dog? What are common pet hazards?)?
- What are the legitimate purposes for owning a dog?
- What factors about one's environment and lifestyle should be considered before beginning the process of selecting a dog?
- In what situations would selecting a mixed breed dog be preferable to selecting a purebred dog? Why?
- What are the best resources for researching canine breeds? Why?
- What are the most common sources for acquiring a pet dog? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each?

Task Number 66

Describe the nutritional requirements of dogs.

Definition

Description should include the sources and functions of nutrients needed in the various growth stages of dogs.

Process/Skill Questions

- What nutrients should be included in a dog's diet? Why is each important?
- What precautions should be taken when choosing food for a dog? Why?
- How are the nutritional requirements different for puppies, adult dogs, and senior dogs?
- How are the nutritional requirements different for the various sizes of dogs? Why?
- What are some examples of foods that should never be fed to pet dogs? Why?

Task Number 67

Explain the housing and equipment requirements of dogs.

Definition

Explanation should include the reasons for a dog's basic housing and equipment needs.

Process/Skill Questions

- How does appropriate housing contribute to maintaining a dog's health?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of electronic fencing?
- Why is it important to establish regular feeding and exercise routines for dogs?
- What types of basic equipment and furnishings should be acquired before bringing home a new puppy or dog?

Task Number 68

Care for a dog.

Definition

Demonstration should reflect industry-accepted methods and procedures for maintaining a healthy dog.

Process/Skill Questions

- Why is regular grooming essential for dogs?
- Why is it important to take special care of a dog's teeth, gums, and feet?
- How can appropriate grooming practices vary from one breed of dog to another?
- How often should one give a dog a bath? Why?
- What is the process for bathing a dog?
- How is the care of puppies and adult dogs different?

Task Number 69

Explain how dogs reproduce.

Definition

Explanation should include the reproductive process of dogs from estrus to birth.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the basic considerations for caring for a pregnant female at the various stages of pregnancy?
- What is colostrum? Why is it important?
- What role do chromosomes play in canine reproduction?
- What are the major considerations when deciding whether to neuter a dog? At what age should a dog be neutered? Why?

Task Number 70

Identify the growth stages of a dog.

Definition

Identification should include the characteristics and care requirements of the newborn, puppy, adult dog, and senior dog.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the characteristics of a dog in each of the typical growth stages?
- What breeds have different-from-average growth stages? What are these growth stages? Why is it important to be aware of them?
- What are the differences in care required by a puppy, an adult dog, and an aging dog?
- What types of basic training should be done in the puppy stages? Why?

Task Number 71

Describe the care of a litter.

Definition

Description should include all factors—animal and human responsibilities—involved in preparing for and caring for a litter.

Process/Skill Questions

- How is a newborn puppy different from a newborn kitten? How are they similar?
- What care should a human provide to newborn puppies and their mother?
- What are the major factors to consider when caring for a litter of puppies?
- What role does the veterinarian play in providing health services to the young puppy?
- When and how should young puppies be housebroken? When and how should the owner begin teaching them how to respond to commands?

Task Number 72

Explain how to maintain a healthy dog.

Definition

Explanation should include the components of a wellness check and a list of the signs, treatments, and prevention of the most common diseases and ailments of dogs.

Process/Skill Questions

- What should be included in a basic wellness check on a dog? How often should it be performed? Why is it important?
- What vaccinations are needed for dogs? When should they be administered? Why is each vaccination important?
- What infectious and non-infectious diseases are common in dogs? What are the signs and symptoms of each? How can each be treated? How can each be prevented? Which are threats to humans?
- What internal and external parasites affect dogs? What are the symptoms of each? How can each be treated? How can each be prevented?
- How do a dog's healthcare needs evolve over its lifetime?

Caring for and Managing Rabbits

Task Number 73

Identify the specific physical characteristics of rabbits.

Definition

Identification should include physical characteristics such as skeletal features, eyes, ears, coat, and whiskers, and their effects on a rabbit's functions.

Process/Skill Questions

- What is a rabbit's scientific classification (i.e., kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species)?
- Do rabbits and hares belong to the same species? What are the differences between the two?
- How do a rabbit's skeletal features differ from those of a dog? A cat? How do the rabbit's skeletal features affect the animal's functionality?
- What effects on the rabbit's functions do its eyes play? Its coat? Its whiskers? Its ears?
- How does rabbit fur differ from one breed to another?

Task Number 74

Identify common breeds of rabbits.

Definition

Identification should include the most common breeds of rabbits in each weight category (dwarf, small, medium, large, giant), detailing the origin and unique physical and behavioral characteristics of each breed.

Process/Skill Questions

- What rabbit breeds are used for fur? For pets? What characteristics make each of these breeds fit the purpose for which it is used?

- What rabbit breeds are used in research? What types of research use rabbits? Why are rabbits used in research?
- What rabbit breeds are used for meat? Why? Why is rabbit meat less popular in the United States than in Europe?

Task Number 75

Explain the considerations involved in selecting a rabbit.

Definition

Explanation should include selection based on knowledge of the breed, source, health issues, environmental considerations, and purpose(s).

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the time, cost, and environmental factors to consider when selecting a pet rabbit?
- What local sources exist for acquiring a pet rabbit? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each?
- What are the factors to consider when deciding whether to get a bunny or an adult rabbit?
- What is the terminology for a male, female, and baby rabbit?

Task Number 76

Describe the nutritional requirements of rabbits.

Definition

Description should include the sources and functions of nutrients needed in the various growth stages of rabbits.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the essential nutritional components needed in a rabbit's diet? Why is each component important?
- What type of feeding routine should be established for a rabbit? Why?
- What role does water play in a rabbit's diet? What role does salt play?
- Why is fiber so essential in a rabbit's diet?
- What is coprophagy? Why is coprophagy an essential behavior for maintaining good health in rabbits?
- What are cecotropes? What do they contain and why are they essential to good health in rabbits?
- How would a rabbit's health deteriorate if the rabbit were prevented from ingesting cecotropes?

Task Number 77

Explain the housing and equipment requirements of rabbits.

Definition

Explanation should include the reasons for rabbits' basic housing and equipment needs.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the primary considerations when preparing and positioning a rabbit cage? Why is each consideration important?
- Why is an exercise area important for both indoor and outdoor rabbits?
- Do rabbits need both pellets and hay? Why, or why not?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of water dishes vs. water bottles for a rabbit?
- Should a new rabbit owner purchase a litter box for the pet? Why, or why not?
- What types of toys are appropriate for pet rabbits? Why are toys important to a rabbit?

Task Number 78

Care for a rabbit.

Definition

Demonstration should reflect industry-accepted methods and procedures for maintaining a healthy rabbit.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the primary considerations when handling a rabbit? Why?
- What are the basic grooming needs of rabbits? Why are they important?

Task Number 79

Explain how rabbits reproduce.

Definition

Explanation should trace the reproductive process of rabbits from estrus to birth.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the typical breeding ages for rabbits? The typical gestation period?
- What is the mating process of the rabbit? How is it similar and different from that of dogs? Cats?
- How does the doe prepare her nest? How can the owner assist with this process?
- What factors and issues should an owner consider when deciding whether to spay or neuter a pet rabbit?

Task Number 80

Identify the growth stages of a rabbit.

Definition

Identification should include the characteristics and care requirements of a rabbit at each stage.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the growth stages of a rabbit? What are the characteristics of each stage?
- Why is it important to separate males and females?
- How do rabbit breeds differ in terms of growth rate? Why is this important for a pet care professional to know?
- What are the differences in the needs and care of a bunny, an adult rabbit, and an aging rabbit?

Task Number 81

Describe the care of a litter.

Definition

Description should include all factors—animal and human responsibilities—involved in preparing for and caring for a litter.

Process/Skill Questions

- What factors should be considered when caring for a litter of bunnies?
- What would be included on a care plan for a family whose rabbit is about to have bunnies for the first time?
- What options should a person consider if he or she finds an orphaned litter of wild bunnies? Why?

Task Number 82

Explain how to maintain a healthy rabbit.

Definition

Explanation should include the components of a wellness check and a list of the signs, treatments, and prevention of the most common diseases and ailments of rabbits.

Process/Skill Questions

- What should be included in a wellness check for a bunny? An adult rabbit?
- What are the most common health problems of rabbits? What are the symptoms of each? What are the treatments? What steps can be taken to prevent these health problems? Which health problems pose a threat to humans? Why?
- What role does stress play in the health of rabbits?

Caring for and Managing Rodents

Task Number 83

Identify specific physical and behavioral characteristics of common pet rodents.

Definition

Identification should include the typical size, colors, appearance, life span, sleep habits, feeding habits, and other behaviors of each animal.

Process/Skill Questions

- What is a rodent's scientific classification (i.e., kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species)?
- How are hamsters and gerbils alike? How are they different?
- What are the primary physical similarities and differences between domestic rats and domestic mice?
- What is the importance of understanding a Syrian hamster's solitary nature?
- What is the importance of understanding a rodent's activity pattern (e.g., nocturnal or active during the day)?
- What is the importance of understanding a rodent's housing, social, and environmental needs?
- What is the importance of understanding a rodent's aversion to potential odors, light, and sounds?

Task Number 84

Explain the considerations involved in selecting a rodent.

Definition

Explanation should include selection based on knowledge of the breed, source, health issues, environmental considerations, and purpose(s).

Process/Skill Questions

- How do the needs of each rodent species differ, based on their size, health, and habitat needs?
- Why is it important to know whether the animal is diurnal or nocturnal when selecting a pet rodent?
- Does a pet rodent fit your lifestyle? Why, or why not?

Task Number 85

Describe the nutritional requirements of rodents.

Definition

Description should include the sources and functions of nutrients needed in the various growth stages of rodents.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the essential nutritional components needed to ensure rodents are fed a balanced diet?
 - What type(s) of food should be fed to omnivores?
 - How might foraging behaviors impact how rodents eat?
-

Task Number 86

Explain the housing and equipment requirements of rodents.

Definition

Explanation should include the reasons for rodents' basic housing and equipment needs.

Process/Skill Questions

- What types of containers/enclosures can be used to house pet gerbils? Hamsters? Mice? Rats?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of cages, aquariums, bins, combo cages, and homemade cabinet housing?
- What are the minimum space requirements for pet gerbils? Hamsters? Mice? Rats?
- What elements can be added to rodent housing to provide opportunities for exercise?
- Why is a nest box or an enclosed refuge an essential housing component for a rodent?
- What should one look for in a healthy pet rodent? What characteristics might suggest that a rodent is unhealthy?

Task Number 87

Care for a rodent.

Definition

Demonstration should reflect industry-accepted methods and procedures for maintaining a healthy rodent.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the primary considerations when handling a rodent? Why?

Task Number 88

Explain how rodents reproduce.

Definition

Explanation should trace the reproductive process of rodents from estrous cycle to birth.

Process/Skill Questions

- What is the breeding age of female gerbils? Hamsters? Mice? Rats?
- Why should nesting material be added to the housing of pregnant rodents?

Task Number 89

Identify the growth stages of rodents.

Definition

Identification should include the characteristics and care requirements of rodents at each stage.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the growth stages of rodents? What are the characteristics of each stage?
-

Task Number 90

Describe the care of a litter.

Definition

Description should include all factors—animal and human responsibilities—involved in preparing for and caring for a litter.

Process/Skill Questions

- What factors should be considered in caring for a litter of rodents?

Task Number 91

Explain how to maintain a healthy pet rodent.

Definition

Explanation should include the components of a wellness check and a list of the signs, treatments, and prevention of the most common diseases and ailments of pet rodents. Explanation should also include methods for providing environmental enrichment.

Process/Skill Questions

- What considerations should be taken when handling gerbils? Hamsters? Mice? Rats?
- In what ways are the nutritional needs of the four types of pet rodents similar? Different?
- What are the most common types of diseases and other health problems in gerbils? Hamsters? Mice? Rats?
- How can these diseases and other health problems be prevented? How can they be treated?
- What zoonotic diseases and other health problems of rodent pets may be harmful to humans?
- What types of precautions are needed to prevent these problems from affecting humans?

Caring for and Managing Guinea Pigs

Task Number 92

Identify the specific physical characteristics of guinea pigs.

Definition

Identification should include physical characteristics such as skeletal features, eyes, ears, coat, and whiskers, and their effects on a guinea pig's functions.

Process/Skill Questions

- What is a guinea pig's scientific classification (e.g., kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species)?
- What are "open-rooted" teeth? How do they affect the way guinea pigs eat?
- What is malocclusion in guinea pigs? How is it treated? What can happen if it is not treated? What should be done to prevent it?

Task Number 93

Identify common breeds of guinea pigs.

Definition

Identification should include the most common breeds of guinea pigs (e.g., American, Abyssinian, Peruvian), detailing the origin and unique physical and behavioral characteristics of each breed.

Process/Skill Questions

- How many recognized breeds of guinea pigs exist?

Task Number 94

Explain the considerations involved in selecting a guinea pig.

Definition

Explanation should include selection based on knowledge of the breed, source, health issues, environmental considerations, and purpose(s).

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the time, cost, and environmental factors to consider when selecting a pet guinea pig?
- What local sources exist for acquiring a pet guinea pig? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each?

Task Number 95

Describe the nutritional requirements of guinea pigs.

Definition

Description should include the sources and functions of nutrients needed in the various growth stages of guinea pigs.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the essential nutrient components needed in a guinea pig's diet? Why is each component important?
- Why is it important to provide guinea pigs with a top-quality pelleted feed?
- Why is it important to provide guinea pigs with high-quality hay?
- Why are fruits, vegetables, and forages essential in the guinea pig's diet?
- What are examples of abrasive foods?
- How do abrasive foods help guinea pigs maintain healthy teeth?
- What is ascorbic acid?
- Why is vitamin C important in the guinea pig's diet?
- How does proper nutrition impact a guinea pig's coat, skin, growth, energy, appetite, teeth, reproduction, organ health, immunity, and ability to fight off disease/infection?

Task Number 96

Explain the housing and equipment requirements of guinea pigs.

Definition

Explanation should include the reasons for guinea pigs' basic housing and equipment needs.

Process/Skill Questions

- What habitat elements can provide stimulation for guinea pigs?
- How many inches of bedding should be added to a guinea pig enclosure?
- What types of bedding should be used for guinea pigs?
- What types of bedding should never be used for guinea pigs? Why?
- Why should you never house guinea pigs with other species (e.g., rabbits, cats, dogs)?

Task Number 97

Care for a guinea pig.

Definition

Demonstration should reflect industry-accepted methods and procedures for maintaining a healthy guinea pig.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the primary considerations when handling a guinea pig? Why?

Task Number 98

Explain how guinea pigs reproduce.

Definition

Explanation should trace the reproductive process of guinea pigs from estrus to birth.

Process/Skill Questions

- At what age do male guinea pigs sexually mature? Female guinea pigs?
- What is the average litter size?
- What is the average gestation period?
- Why is breeding guinea pigs not recommended?
- At what age should male pups be removed from the mother? Why?
- What is dystocia? Hypocalcemia? How do each of these impact guinea pigs?

Task Number 99

Identify the growth stages of a guinea pig.

Definition

Identification should include the characteristics and care requirements of a guinea pig at each stage.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the care requirements of pups?
 - What is the guinea pig's adolescent phase?
 - When is a guinea pig considered an adult?
-

Task Number 100

Describe the care of a litter.

Definition

Description should include all factors—animal and human responsibilities—involved in preparing for and caring for a litter.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the factors to consider in caring for a litter of pups?
- Why is it important to determine the sex of the pups prior to three weeks of age?
- Define *precocious*. Why are pups considered to be precocious?

Task Number 101

Explain how to maintain a healthy guinea pig.

Definition

Explanation should include the components of a wellness check and a list of the signs, treatments, and prevention of the most common diseases and ailments of guinea pigs. Explanation should also include methods for providing environmental enrichment.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the most common types of diseases and other health problems in guinea pigs?
- What are some common health issues that guinea pigs might experience (e.g., diarrhea, mites/lice, internal parasites, ringworm, scurvy)?
- What actions should be taken to resolve a guinea pig's health issues?
- What types of zoonotic diseases and other health problems of guinea pigs could be harmful to humans?
- How important is exercise to a guinea pig's overall health?

Caring for and Managing Birds

Task Number 102

Identify specific physical and behavioral characteristics of common of pet birds.

Definition

Identification should include the common species of pet birds and the physical and behavioral characteristics of each.

Process/Skill Questions

- What is a bird's scientific classification (e.g., kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species)?
- What types of feathers do birds have? How is each type of feather important to a bird?
- What are the most common subfamilies of birds? What characteristics do these subfamilies have in common? What characteristics differ from one subfamily to another?
- What factors are essential to consider prior to selecting a pet bird (e.g., lifespan, intelligence, temperament, time, nutrition, budget)?

Task Number 103

Identify common species of pet birds.

Definition

Identification should include the most common species of pet birds (e.g., cockatiels, African Greys, parakeets, cockatoos, macaws), detailing the origin and unique physical and behavioral characteristics of each species.

Process/Skill Questions

- What is the most popular species of pet bird?
- What is the origin of the macaw?

Task Number 104

Explain the considerations involved in selecting a bird.

Definition

Explanation should include selection based on knowledge of the species, source, health issues, environmental considerations, and purpose(s).

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the time, cost, and environmental factors to consider when selecting a pet bird?
- What local sources exist for acquiring a pet bird? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each?
- What factors should be considered when deciding whether to get multiple birds for one enclosure?

Task Number 105

Describe the nutritional requirements of birds.

Definition

Description should include the sources and functions of nutrients needed in the various growth stages of birds.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are some examples of bird species that only eat grains and seeds?
- How might providing a pet bird with vitamin supplements result in vitamin overload? When should supplements be provided?
- What are some examples of foods that should never be fed to pet birds?

Task Number 106

Explain the housing and equipment requirements of birds.

Definition

Explanation should include the reasons for birds' basic housing and equipment needs.

Process/Skill Questions

- What type of cage location should be chosen for a social bird? A nervous bird?
- Why do some birds like the presence of a cage cover while others are frightened by it?
- Define *cagemate trauma*.

Task Number 107

Care for a bird.

Definition

Demonstration should reflect industry-accepted methods and procedures for maintaining a healthy bird.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the primary considerations when handling a bird? Why?

Task Number 108

Explain how birds reproduce.

Definition

Explanation should trace the reproductive process of birds from egg development to hatching.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the differences between avian and mammalian reproductive tracts? What are the similarities?
- Why does a chicken lay an egg once per day after reaching puberty?

Task Number 109

Identify the growth stages of a bird.

Definition

Identification should include the characteristics and care requirements of a bird at each stage.

Process/Skill Questions

- How does a fledgling differ from a nestling?
 - What role does incubation play in the growth stages of birds?
-

Task Number 110

Describe the care of nestlings.

Definition

Description should include all factors—animal and human responsibilities—involved in preparing for and caring for nestlings.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the factors to consider in caring for nestlings?
- How can a pet owner help a pet bird prepare for nestlings?

Task Number 111

Explain how to maintain a healthy pet bird.

Definition

Explanation should include the components of a wellness check and a list of the signs, treatments, and prevention of the most common diseases and ailments of pet birds. Explanation should also include methods for providing environmental enrichment.

Process/Skill Questions

- What special care should be taken when choosing, placing, and equipping a cage for a parrot? How might the choice, placement, and/or equipment for a canary cage differ from those of a parrot?
- What are the primary considerations when handling a pet bird?
- How can parrots, mynah birds, cockatiels, and other so-called "talking birds" be trained to talk?
- What are the most common parasites and diseases associated with pet birds? How can these be prevented? How are they treated?
- What zoonotic diseases are carried by birds? What practices should be implemented when handling birds to prevent or reduce infection?
- What nutritional problems can occur in birds? What are the symptoms and treatments?
- What can be done to alleviate problems posed by overgrown claws? By feather plucking?
- Why is it important to trim a bird's claws and beak?
- Is wing clipping needed? Why, or why not?

Caring for and Managing Fish

Task Number 112

Identify the various categories of fish suitable for home aquariums.

Definition

Identification should include the major types of fish suitable for home aquariums and the characteristics of each.

Process/Skill Questions

- What is a fish's scientific classification (e.g., kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species)?
- What are the four classes of fish? How do they differ?
- What are the dangers of adding too many fish at once into a new aquarium?
- Why is it important to know the feeding habits and other behaviors of different fish species before putting them together into the same aquarium?
- Why is it important to select the species of fish prior to setting up and equipping the aquarium?

Task Number 113

Identify common species of pet fish.

Definition

Identification should include the most common species of pet fish (e.g., goldfish, betta fish, oscars, koi), detailing the origin and unique physical and behavioral characteristics of each species.

Process/Skill Questions

- Why are betta fish such popular pets?
 - How large can an adult koi fish grow?
 - How does habitat size affect the growth of the fish?
-

Task Number 114

Explain the considerations involved in selecting a fish.

Definition

Explanation should include selection based on knowledge of the species, source, health issues, environmental considerations, and purpose(s).

Process/Skill Questions

- What research should be done prior to introducing multiple species of fish into the same aquarium?
- What are the time, cost, and environmental factors to consider when selecting pet fish?
- What local sources exist for acquiring pet fish? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each?

Task Number 115

Describe the nutritional requirements of fish.

Definition

Description should include the sources and functions of nutrients needed in the various growth stages of fish.

Process/Skill Questions

- What types of fish food are available for your fish?
- Why is this information important when considering the type of food to feed your fish?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of flakes, pellets, freeze dried food, frozen food, and live food (carnivores only)?
- Why is it important to feed fish a variety of food?
- At what time of day should fish be fed? Why?
- Why can overfeeding fish be just as dangerous as underfeeding?
- How does overfeeding fish impact water quality? What is the two minute rule?
- What are some examples of pet fish that only eat plants? Only live food?

- How often should goldfish be fed?

Task Number 116

Explain the habitat and equipment requirements of fish.

Definition

Explanation should include the reasons for the basic habitat and equipment needs of fish.

Process/Skill Questions

- How do the habitat requirements of betta fish differ from goldfish?
- How can you tell when an aquarium is in need of cleaning?
- How is the maintenance of saltwater aquariums different from freshwater aquariums?
- Why is the location of the aquarium important?
- How can location determine fish stress levels?
- What are the basic requirements of a freshwater tank? Saltwater?

Task Number 117

Care for a fish.

Definition

Demonstration should reflect industry-accepted methods and procedures for maintaining a healthy fish.

Process/Skill Questions

- Why is it a good idea to place new fish in a quarantine tank before introducing them to an existing tank? How long should they be quarantined?
- How can you ensure plants are clean before adding them to an aquarium? Why is this an important step?

Task Number 118

Explain how fish reproduce.

Definition

Explanation should include

- oviparity
- ovoviviparity
- viviparity

and tracing the reproductive process of fish from spawning to hatching/birth.

Process/Skill Questions

- How does a male fish fertilize the eggs released by a female fish?
- How do guppies reproduce?

Task Number 119

Identify the growth stages of a fish.

Definition

Identification should include the characteristics and care requirements of a fish at each stage.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the general stages of the fish life cycle?
 - What are the care requirements at each stage?
-

Task Number 120

Describe the care of fry and fingerlings.

Definition

Description should include all factors—animal and human responsibilities—involved in preparing for and caring for fry and fingerlings.

Task Number 121

Explain how to maintain a healthy aquarium.

Definition

Explanation should include

- the processes, both routine and intermittent, required to keep the aquarium environment clean and healthy
- the components of a wellness check and a list of the signs, treatments, and prevention of the most common diseases and ailments of fish.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the most common symptoms of disease in pet fish? Why is it important to act quickly to treat these symptoms?

- Which parasites and bacterial diseases are common to most pet fish? Which are associated with one type of fish? How are these parasites and diseases treated?
- How might the aquarium environment contribute to a fish's good health? To a fish's poor health?
- Why are the following factors important when feeding pet fish: amount of food, frequency of meals, type of food (flakes vs. pellets, live vs. freeze-dried or frozen foods, meat vs. vegetable material)?
- What are the primary differences between breeding egg-laying fish and breeding live-bearing fish?
- How can the presence of snails affect the health of an aquarium?

Caring for and Managing Reptiles, Amphibians, and Other Specialized Animals

Task Number 122

Identify specific physical and behavioral characteristics of common pet reptiles, amphibians, and other specialized animals of general interest.

Definition

Identification should include the typical size, colors, appearance, life span, sleep habits, feeding habits, and other behaviors of each animal.

Process/Skill Questions

- What physical characteristics do reptiles have in common?
- What physical characteristics do amphibians have in common?
- In what ways do the physical characteristics of turtles, snakes, and lizards differ from each other?
- How do the body types of turtles, snakes, and lizards affect their behavior?
- Why do all reptiles shed their skin?
- Why do indoor pet reptiles need to hibernate?
- How can the pet owner help the pet to hibernate successfully?

Task Number 123

Identify common species of pet reptiles and amphibians.

Definition

Identification should include the most common species of pet reptiles and amphibians (e.g. pythons, corn snakes, chameleons, red ear slider turtles, bearded dragons, tree frogs), detailing the origin and unique physical and behavioral characteristics of each species.

Process/Skill Questions

- Why is it important to research a snake's expected size at maturity when selecting a pet?
 - What is the origin of the bearded dragon?
-

Task Number 124

Explain the considerations involved in selecting a pet reptile and/or amphibian.

Definition

Explanation should include basing selection on knowledge of species, source, health issues, environmental considerations, and purpose(s).

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the time, cost, and environmental factors to consider when selecting a pet reptile or amphibian?
- What local sources exist for acquiring a pet reptile or amphibian? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each?

Task Number 125

Describe the nutritional requirements of reptiles and amphibians.

Definition

Description should include the sources and functions of nutrients needed in the various growth stages of reptiles and amphibians.

Process/Skill Questions

- What foods can help reptiles absorb water?
- What considerations should be made when deciding whether to use feeder insects as food?

Task Number 126

Explain the housing and equipment requirements of reptiles/amphibians.

Definition

Explanation should include the reasons for the basic housing and equipment needs of reptiles/amphibians.

Process/Skill Questions

- What species of snakes require custom-built habitats?
- What equipment can add humidity to a pet habitat? What species of reptiles and/or amphibians require humidity?

Task Number 127

Care for a reptile/amphibian.

Definition

Demonstration should reflect industry-accepted methods and procedures for maintaining a healthy reptile/amphibian.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the primary considerations when handling a reptile or amphibian? Why?

Task Number 128

Explain how reptiles and amphibians reproduce.

Definition

Explanation should include

- outline of reptile and amphibian reproduction and development
- amphibian egg laying and parental care
- amphibian larvae and metamorphosis
- description of reptile eggs (amniotic)
- asexual reproduction (parthenogenesis) in reptiles
- reptile egg laying and parental care
- oviparity, ovoviviparity, viviparity, and the reproductive process of reptiles.

Process/Skill Questions

- Which species of reptiles lay eggs?
- Which give birth to live young?
- What is the life cycle of a frog?
- What is the level of parental involvement of most amphibians?
- What is metamorphosis in amphibians?
- Can genetic variation occur in offspring produced by parthenogenesis? Why, or why not?
- What are the costs and benefits of parthenogenesis?
- How do male reptiles fertilize females?

Task Number 129

Identify the growth stages of reptiles and amphibians.

Definition

Identification should include the characteristics and care requirements of reptiles and amphibians at each stage.

Process/Skill Questions

- How do tadpoles differ from juvenile amphibians?
 - How long do reptile hatchlings typically remain in their shells?
-

Task Number 130

Describe the care of a clutch/hatchlings.

Definition

Description should include all factors—animal and human responsibilities—involved in preparing for and caring for a clutch/hatchlings.

Process/Skill Questions

- What steps can be taken to ensure turtle hatchlings remain properly hydrated?

Task Number 131

Explain how to maintain a healthy terrarium.

Definition

Explanation should include

- the processes, both routine and intermittent, required to keep the terrarium environment clean and healthy
- the components of a wellness check and a list of the signs, treatments, and prevention of the most common diseases and ailments of reptiles/amphibians.

Process/Skill Questions

- What factors must be considered to provide proper environmental conditions for a pet reptile or amphibian? Why are these so important to the animal?

- How can a pet owner simulate a pet reptile's or amphibian's natural habitat? What housing and equipment can help recreate a terrestrial habitat? An arboreal habitat? An aquatic habitat? A semiaquatic habitat?
- What types of food are needed by a pet reptile or amphibian on a daily basis? Why is each type important?
- What are common signs of disease or other ailments in reptiles and/or amphibians? How are these health problems treated?
- What zoonotic diseases are carried by reptiles and amphibians?
- What precautions should owners and other handlers of pet reptiles or amphibians take to avoid health risks to humans?
- Why is it important to check governmental regulations prior to purchasing or otherwise acquiring a reptile or amphibian as a pet?

Caring for and Managing Specialty Animals

Task Number 132

Identify specific physical and behavioral characteristics of common pet specialty/exotic animals.

Definition

Identification should include the typical size, colors, appearance, life span, sleep habits, feeding habits, and other behaviors of each animal.

Task Number 133

Identify common breeds/species of pet specialty/exotic animals.

Definition

Identification should include the most common breeds/species of specialty/exotic animals, including

- chinchillas
- ferrets
- sugar gliders
- hedgehogs
- pigs.

Process/Skill Questions

- Which pig breeds are commonly selected as pets?

- How do the spines of a hedgehog differ from the quills of a porcupine?
-

Task Number 134

Explain the considerations involved in selecting a specialty/exotic animal.

Definition

Explanation should include basing selection on knowledge of breeds/species, source, health issues, environmental considerations, and purpose(s).

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the time, cost, and environmental factors to consider when selecting a specialty/exotic pet?
- What local sources exist for acquiring a specialty/exotic pet? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each?

Task Number 135

Describe the nutritional requirements of various specialty/exotic animals.

Definition

Description should include the sources and functions of nutrients needed in the various growth stages of various specialty/exotic animals.

Task Number 136

Explain the housing and equipment requirements of various specialty/exotic animals.

Definition

Explanation should include the reasons for the basic housing and equipment needs of various specialty/exotic animals.

Task Number 137

Care for a specialty/exotic animal.

Definition

Demonstration should reflect industry-accepted methods and procedures for maintaining a healthy specialty/exotic animal.

Process/Skill Questions

- What are the primary considerations when handling various specialty/exotic pets? Why?

Task Number 138

Explain how various specialty/exotic animals reproduce.

Definition

Explanation should trace the reproductive process of various specialty/exotic animals from estrus to birth.

Task Number 139

Identify the growth stages of various specialty/exotic animals.

Definition

Identification should include the characteristics and care requirements of various specialty/exotic animals at each stage.

Task Number 140

Describe the care of a litter of various specialty/exotic animals.

Definition

Description should include all factors—animal and human responsibilities—involved in preparing for and caring for a litter.

Task Number 141

Explain how to maintain a healthy specialty/exotic animal.

Definition

Explanation should include the components of a wellness check and a list of the signs, treatments, and prevention of the most common diseases and ailments of specialty/exotic animals. Explanation should also include methods for providing environmental enrichment.

SOL Correlation by Task

39	Identify the role of supervised agricultural experiences (SAEs) in agricultural education.	English: 9.3, 9.5, 10.3, 10.5, 11.3, 11.5, 12.3, 12.5
40	Participate in an SAE.	English: 9.5, 9.8, 10.5, 10.8, 11.5, 11.8, 12.5, 12.8
41	Identify the benefits and responsibilities of FFA membership.	English: 9.5, 9.6, 9.7, 9.8, 10.5, 10.6, 10.7, 10.8, 11.5, 11.6, 11.7, 11.8, 12.5, 12.6, 12.7, 12.8
42	Describe leadership characteristics and opportunities as they relate to agriculture and FFA.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5 History and Social Science: VUS.8, VUS.9, VUS.10, VUS.11, WHIL.8, WHIL.10, WHIL.11
43	Apply for an FFA degree and/or an agricultural proficiency award.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
44	Use parliamentary procedure.	English: 9.3, 9.5, 10.3, 10.5, 11.3, 11.5, 12.3, 12.5
45	Deliver a speech or presentation.	English: 9.1, 9.5, 10.1, 10.5, 11.1, 11.5, 12.1, 12.5 History and Social Science: GOVT.1, GOVT.6, GOVT.8, GOVT.9, GOVT.16, VUS.1, VUS.13, VUS.14, WHI.1, WHIL.1, WHIL.14
46	Participate in a committee meeting.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
47	Participate in an FFA community service project.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
48	Examine the roles of pets with humans throughout history.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5 History and Social Science: WG.13, WHI.2
49	Describe career opportunities in the small animal care industry.	English: 9.5, 9.8, 10.5, 10.8, 11.5, 11.8, 12.5, 12.8 History and Social Science: VUS.13, VUS.14
50	Describe the nature of the work and the salaries in the small animal care industry.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
51	Identify safety issues related to working in the small animal care industry.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
52	Demonstrate respect for and safe treatment of classroom animals.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
53	Identify the specific physical characteristics of cats.	Science: BIO.4
54	Identify common breeds of cats.	Science: BIO.4
55	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a cat.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
56	Describe the nutritional requirements of cats.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5 Science: BIO.2
57	Explain the housing and equipment requirements of cats.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5

58	Care for a cat.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
59	Explain how cats reproduce.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5 Science: BIO.5
60	Identify the growth stages of a cat.	Science: BIO.4, BIO.6
61	Describe the care of a litter.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
62	Explain how to maintain a healthy cat.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
63	Identify the specific physical characteristics of dogs.	Science: BIO.4
64	Identify common breeds of dogs.	Science: BIO.4
65	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a dog.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
66	Describe the nutritional requirements of dogs.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5 Science: BIO.2
67	Explain the housing and equipment requirements of dogs.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
68	Care for a dog.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
69	Explain how dogs reproduce.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5 Science: BIO.5
70	Identify the growth stages of a dog.	Science: BIO.4, BIO.6
71	Describe the care of a litter.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
72	Explain how to maintain a healthy dog.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
73	Identify the specific physical characteristics of rabbits.	Science: BIO.4
74	Identify common breeds of rabbits.	Science: BIO.4
75	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a rabbit.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
76	Describe the nutritional requirements of rabbits.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5 Science: BIO.2
77	Explain the housing and equipment requirements of rabbits.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
78	Care for a rabbit.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
79	Explain how rabbits reproduce.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5 Science: BIO.5
80	Identify the growth stages of a rabbit.	Science: BIO.4, BIO.6
81	Describe the care of a litter.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
82	Explain how to maintain a healthy rabbit.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
83	Identify specific physical and behavioral characteristics of common pet rodents.	Science: BIO.4
84	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a rodent.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
85	Describe the nutritional requirements of rodents.	
86	Explain the housing and equipment requirements of rodents.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
87	Care for a rodent.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
88	Explain how rodents reproduce.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
89	Identify the growth stages of rodents.	

90	Describe the care of a litter.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
91	Explain how to maintain a healthy pet rodent.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
92	Identify the specific physical characteristics of guinea pigs.	
93	Identify common breeds of guinea pigs.	
94	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a guinea pig.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
95	Describe the nutritional requirements of guinea pigs.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
96	Explain the housing and equipment requirements of guinea pigs.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
97	Care for a guinea pig.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
98	Explain how guinea pigs reproduce.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
99	Identify the growth stages of a guinea pig.	
100	Describe the care of a litter.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
101	Explain how to maintain a healthy guinea pig.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
102	Identify specific physical and behavioral characteristics of common of pet birds.	Science: BIO.4
103	Identify common species of pet birds.	
104	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a bird.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
105	Describe the nutritional requirements of birds.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
106	Explain the housing and equipment requirements of birds.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
107	Care for a bird.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
108	Explain how birds reproduce.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
109	Identify the growth stages of a bird.	
110	Describe the care of nestlings.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
111	Explain how to maintain a healthy pet bird.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
112	Identify the various categories of fish suitable for home aquariums.	Science: BIO.4, BIO.8
113	Identify common species of pet fish.	
114	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a fish.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
115	Describe the nutritional requirements of fish.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
116	Explain the habitat and equipment requirements of fish.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
117	Care for a fish.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
118	Explain how fish reproduce.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
119	Identify the growth stages of a fish.	
120	Describe the care of fry and fingerlings.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
121	Explain how to maintain a healthy aquarium.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
122	Identify specific physical and behavioral characteristics of common pet reptiles, amphibians, and other specialized animals of general interest.	Science: BIO.4, BIO.8
123	Identify common species of pet reptiles and amphibians.	
124	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a pet reptile and/or amphibian.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
125	Describe the nutritional requirements of reptiles and amphibians.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5

126	Explain the housing and equipment requirements of reptiles/amphibians.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
127	Care for a reptile/amphibian.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
128	Explain how reptiles and amphibians reproduce.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
129	Identify the growth stages of reptiles and amphibians.	
130	Describe the care of a clutch/hatchlings.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
131	Explain how to maintain a healthy terrarium.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
132	Identify specific physical and behavioral characteristics of common pet specialty/exotic animals.	
133	Identify common breeds/species of pet specialty/exotic animals.	
134	Explain the considerations involved in selecting a specialty/exotic animal.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
135	Describe the nutritional requirements of various specialty/exotic animals.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
136	Explain the housing and equipment requirements of various specialty/exotic animals.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
137	Care for a specialty/exotic animal.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
138	Explain how various specialty/exotic animals reproduce.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
139	Identify the growth stages of various specialty/exotic animals.	
140	Describe the care of a litter of various specialty/exotic animals.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5
141	Explain how to maintain a healthy specialty/exotic animal.	English: 9.5, 10.5, 11.5, 12.5

FFA Information

The National FFA is an organization dedicated to preparing members for leadership and careers in the science, business, and technology of agriculture. Local, state, and national activities and award programs provide opportunities to apply knowledge and skills acquired through agriculture education.

For additional information about the student organization, see the [National FFA website](#) and the [Virginia FFA Association website](#).

Case Studies

Customer Service Infusion Units (CSIU) were designed to be infused with designated CTE courses to help students in those programs achieve additional, focused, validated tasks/competencies in customer service. These units are not mandatory, and, as such, the tasks/competencies are marked as "optional," to be taught at the instructor's discretion.

Entrepreneurship Infusion Units

Entrepreneurship Infusion Units may be used to help students achieve additional, focused competencies and enhance the validated tasks/competencies related to identifying and starting a new business venture. Because the unit is a complement to certain designated courses and is not mandatory, all tasks/competencies are marked “optional.”

Teacher Resources

- **Merck Veterinary Manual:** <http://www.merckvetmanual.com/>
- **Small Animal Care Safety Contract:**
<http://cteresource.org/attachments/anr/veterinary/Animal%20Safety%20Contract.docx>
- **Canine Acute Pain Scale:** <http://cteresource.org/attachments/anr/veterinary/Dog%20Pain%20Scale.pdf>
- **Feline Acute Pain Scale:**
<http://cteresource.org/attachments/anr/veterinary/CSU%20Acute%20Pain%20Scale%20Feline.pdf>
- **Equine Comfort Assessment Scale:**
<http://cteresource.org/attachments/anr/veterinary/Anesthesia%20Pain%20Management%20Pain%20Score%20Equine.pdf>
- **Coat Characteristics of Dogs PowerPoint:**
<http://cteresource.org/attachments/anr/veterinary/Coat%20Characteristics%20of%20Dogs.ppsx>
- **Grooming Equipment List:**
<http://cteresource.org/attachments/anr/veterinary/Grooming%20Equipment%20List.docx>
- **Dog Grooming Receipt:**
<http://cteresource.org/attachments/anr/veterinary/Dog%20Grooming%20Receipt.docx>
- **New Client Form:** <http://cteresource.org/attachments/anr/veterinary/New%20Client%20Form.docx>
- **Pet Release Form:** <http://cteresource.org/attachments/anr/veterinary/Pet%20Release%20Form.docx>

Appendix: Credentials, Course Sequences, and Career Cluster Information

Industry Credentials: Only apply to 36-week courses

- Animal Systems Assessment
- Canine Care and Training Program- Level 1 Certification Examination
- Certified Veterinary Assistant Examination
- College and Work Readiness Assessment (CWRA+)
- Customer Service Specialist (CSS) Examination
- National Career Readiness Certificate Assessment
- Pet Sitters Certification Examination
- Small Animal Science and Technology Assessment
- Veterinary Medical Applications Examination
- Workplace Readiness Skills for the Commonwealth Examination

Concentration sequences: *A combination of this course and those below, equivalent to two 36-week courses, is a concentration sequence. Students wishing to complete a specialization may take additional courses based on their career pathways. A program completer is a student who has met the requirements for a CTE concentration sequence and all other requirements for high school graduation or an approved alternative education program.*

- Agricultural Business Fundamentals I (8022/36 weeks)
- Agricultural Business Management III (8026/36 weeks)
- Agricultural Business Operations II (8024/36 weeks)
- Biological Applications in Agriculture (8086/36 weeks)
- Biotechnology Applications in Agriculture (8087/36 weeks)
- Biotechnology Foundations in Agricultural and Environmental Science (8085/36 weeks)
- Biotechnology Foundations in Health and Medical Sciences (8344/36 weeks)
- Equine Science (8015/18 weeks)
- Equine Science (8080/36 weeks)
- Equine Science, Advanced (8094/36 weeks)
- Introduction to Animal Systems (8008/36 weeks)
- Livestock Production Management (8012/36 weeks)
- Small Animal Care II (8084/36 weeks)
- Veterinary Science I (8088/36 weeks, 140 hours)
- Veterinary Science II (8089/36 weeks, 140 hours)

Career Cluster: Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources	
Pathway	Occupations
Agribusiness Systems	Farm, Ranch Manager Farmer/Rancher
Animal Systems	Animal Breeder, Husbandry Animal Geneticist Animal Nutritionist Animal Scientist Aquacultural Manager Poultry Manager Veterinarian Veterinary Technician

Career Cluster: Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources	
Pathway	Occupations
Natural Resources Systems	Fish and Game Officer Fisheries Technician Wildlife Manager

Career Cluster: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics	
Pathway	Occupations
Science and Mathematics	Animal Nutritionist Animal Scientist Veterinarian Veterinary Assistant