

BROWNIE: PETS

Hey Girl Scout! It is time to learn about our cuddly pets. Learn how to choose the pet that is right for you - or find out how to take the best care of a pet you already have. When you have earned this badge, you'll know how to take care of a pet.

Step 1: Find out what care different pets need.

1. Pets are as different as the people who love them. It is me to play pet bingo to find out which pet is for you. The pet options are: mouse, dog, hamster, turtle, fish, bird, iguana, cat, and add your own!
2. Team up with an adult to research pets online. You will pick 3 animals to find the answers to the following questions for. Feel free to find the answers for all 9 animals.
3. The questions:
 - How much does it cost to care for this pet?
 - How much space does this pet need?
 - How much food does this pet need?
 - What kind of human contact does this pet like?

Supplies:

1. Computer
2. Pencil
3. Paper

Step 2: Keep a pet comfy.

1. Pets need a clean and comfortable place to live - if their cage, tank, or dog house is dirty, they can get sick.
2. For two weeks, take charge of the cleaning for a fish, hamster, bird, cat, or other pet with its own little house or litter box.
3. Or, find out how the pet likes to sleep, then make a bed for a cat or a dog, or a sleeping nook for a hamster or guinea pig.

Supplies:

1. Supplies to clean

Step 3: Help a pet stay healthy and safe.

1. Just like humans, pets need special care to stay healthy. Find out about how to keep them safe, feeling good, and looking good, too.
2. Pick three pets and find out how often they have to be washed or brushed and any other special care tips. Then try out what you've learned by grooming your own pet.

Supplies:

1. Computer
2. Pencil
3. Paper

Step 4: Make a pet feel loved.

1. Pets need attention, hugs, and kind words, as well as lots of time to have fun and play. Learning to be a good pet owner is like learning to be a good parent.

2. First, make a simple pet toy. Fill an old sock with catnip, knot the top, and leave it for a cat to play with. Or make a sock doll for your dog, by filling up small socks with stuffing and sewing the sock together.
3. Then, make up a game to play with your pet. It could be a throw and catch game with the new doll or a feather toy game with your cat.

Supplies:

1. Socks
2. Catnip
3. Stuffing
4. Sewing supplies

Step 5: Feed a pet.

1. One of the most important responsibilities of a pet owner is knowing what her pet eats, how much it needs to eat, and what it can't eat. You also want to make sure their food is ready when they are hungry.
2. Make a pet budget for two pets. Add up how much it costs to feed two different pets for one month. Think about regular food and any extras, such as treats and vitamins.