

Electronic Field Trip to a Veterinary Clinic

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Call the Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association (502-226-5862) for more information on

- materials available for classroom use
- class visits by local vets
- National Pet Week Poster Contest for grades 4-8

Electronic Field Trip to a Veterinary Clinic Program Outline

Introduction and Overview -- approximately 20 minutes

- Meet the three veterinarians (Dr. McCaw, Dr. Bowling, and Dr. Burdick).
- Learn about the characteristics and skills of veterinarians.
- Find out what to study to become a veterinarian.
- Take a tour of the clinic and see what happens there.

**Note: During one segment Dr. Bowling's students will see Dr. Bowling delivering a calf. Please preview.*

Other Careers at the Clinic -- approximately 10 minutes

- Find out about a career as a veterinary technician, their duties, and characteristics.
- Discover how computers help veterinarians keep track of their patients.
- Talk to an office assistant at the clinic to find out about their jobs.

Responsible Pet Ownership -- approximately 12 minutes

- What should a person consider when buying a pet?
- Learn how to be a responsible pet owner.
- Dr. Bowling examines a horse for a potential owner.

Large Animals/Livestock -- approximately 8 minutes

- Dr. Bowling helps a nursing calf.
- Dr. McCaw examines a sick cow.

Problem Solving/Diagnosing -- approximately 6 minutes

- Sometimes the veterinarians are stumped.
- Sometimes they know the answer and major surgery is required.

**Note: Some of the surgery on a dog's leg is shown. Please preview.*

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Animal Facts

Three reasons for a pet's positive impact on human health include:

1. social support,
2. reduction of stress, anxiety, and anger, and
3. the provision of something to nurture.

Scientific studies have shown that people with pets are happier and healthier than people without pets.

Animal shelters find homes for only 1 or 2 out of 10 unwanted cats and dogs.

The majority of human rabies cases in the U.S. have resulted from exposures to bats.

About 60% of the households in the U.S. have at least one dog, cat, bird or other animal.

Veterinarians...

diagnose and control animal diseases,
treat sick and injured animals,
prevent transmission of animal diseases to people,
advise owners on proper care of pets and livestock, and
are involved in wildlife preservation and conservation.

There are over 55,000 veterinarians working in the U.S. today.

Veterinarians care for

52 million dogs
55 million cats
11.7 million birds
7 million other pets
8 million horses
115 million cattle
56 million hogs
12 million sheep and lambs

Research veterinarians have helped conquer malaria and yellow fever.

Personal abilities of veterinarians are

an inquiring mind,
keen powers of observation,
interest in biological sciences,
love and understanding of animals, and
able to meet, talk, and work well with people.

About 50% of veterinarians are self-employed owners of private practices.

The veterinary medical profession is growing approximately 3% per year.

Electronic Field Trip to a Veterinary Clinic Reading List

Entries marked with an asterisk (*) are of special interest to young readers.

- American Kennel Club—The Complete Dog Book, Howell Book House, New York, NY
- * Bellville, Rod & Cheryl W.—Large Animal Veterinarian, Carolrhoda Books, Inc., Minneapolis, MN
- Brutte, William & Donnelly, Kerry V.—The Complete Dog Buyers Guide, TFH Publications, Neptune City, NJ
- * Curtis, Patricia—All Creatures Welcome, E.P. Dutton, New York, NY
- * Curtis, Patricia—Cindy, A Hearing Ear Dog, E.P. Dutton, New York, NY
- Herrito, James—All Creatures Great and Small, St. Martins Press, New York, NY
- * Herriot, James—All Things Bright and Beautiful, St. Martins Press, New York, NY
- Herriot, James—The Best of James Herriot, St. Martins Press, New York, NY
- * Herriot, James—Blossom Comes Home, St. Martins Press, New York, NY
- * Herriot, James—Bonny's Big Day, St. Martins Press, New York, NY
- Herriot, James—James Herriot's Dog Stories, St. Martins Press, New York, NY
- Herriot, James—The Lord God Made Them All, St. Martins Press, New York, NY
- * Herriot, James—Moses, The Kitten, St. Martins Press, New York, NY
- * Herriot, James—Only One Woof, St. Martins Press, New York, NY
- * Jasperjohn, William—A Day in the Life of a Veterinarian, Little, Brown and Company, Waltham, MA
- Kritsick, Stephen, DVM—Dr. Kritsick's Tender Loving Cat Care, Simon & Shuster, New York, NY
- Lewis, Lon D.—Feeding and Care of the Horse, Lear Febriger, Philadelphia, PA
- McCormack, John E.—Watch for a Cloud of Dust, Memories of a Dixie Veterinarian, Hoard and Sons, West Atkinson, WI
- Miller, Robert—Most of My Patients are Animals, Eriksson, Middlebury, VT
- Porter, James A., DVM—Doctor, Matilda's in Labor, Iowa State University Press, Ames, IA
- Pugnetti, Gino—Simon and Shuster's Guide to Cats, Simon & Shuster, New York, NY
- Schwartz, Charlotte—Friend to Friend (Dogs that Help Mankind), Howell Book House, New York, NY
- Swope, Robert E.—Opportunities in Veterinary Medicine Careers, National Textbook Company, Lincolnwood, IL
- Totora, Daniel F.—The Right Dog for You, Choosing a Breed that Matches Your Personality, Simon & Shuster, New York, NY
- Viner, Bradley—The Cat Care Manual, Barron's Educational Series, Inc., Woodbury, NY
- Vriends, Mathew—Simon and Shuster's Guide to Pet Birds, Simon & Shuster, New York, NY