What Pet Should You Get?

A Reading A–Z Level J Leveled Book
Word Count: 451

What Pet Should You Get?

PRO

CON

Written by Kate Page

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Correlation

LEVEL J	
Fountas & Pinnell	J
Reading Recovery	17
DRA	18

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Introduction

Almost every kid has wanted
to have a pet.
Pets can make good friends.
But how do you **decide**
which kind of pet to get?

Here are some kids who have some **opinions** about pets. Read what they have to say. Then decide what kind of pet you would like to have.

Dogs as Pets

Every kid should own a dog.
A dog comes when you call it.
You know it likes you
because it wags its tail.
Dogs like to play chase with you.
Some dogs will even play catch!
Get a dog for a great **playmate**!

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Dogs as Pets

Dogs are hard pets to keep.

They need lots of space to run.

What if you don't have a yard?

You have to take them

on walks even if it is cold.

The worst thing is that you have

to clean up after them.

Yuck, who wants a dog?

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Lizards as Pets

Lizards make the coolest pets.

They don't bark or meow.

You don't have to take them for walks.

They are easy to hold and to pet.

It doesn't cost much for lizard food.

So, go get a lizard!

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Lizards as Pets

It is mean to keep lizards as pets.

Some have to stay in one tiny box
their whole life.

Some of them eat live crickets.

Plus, it feels really **weird** to pet them.

Never, ever, get a lizard!

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Fish as Pets

Fish make awesome pets.

They come in such pretty colors.

It is fun to watch them
swim back and forth.

It is fun to watch their funny mouths.

They only need to be fed once a day.
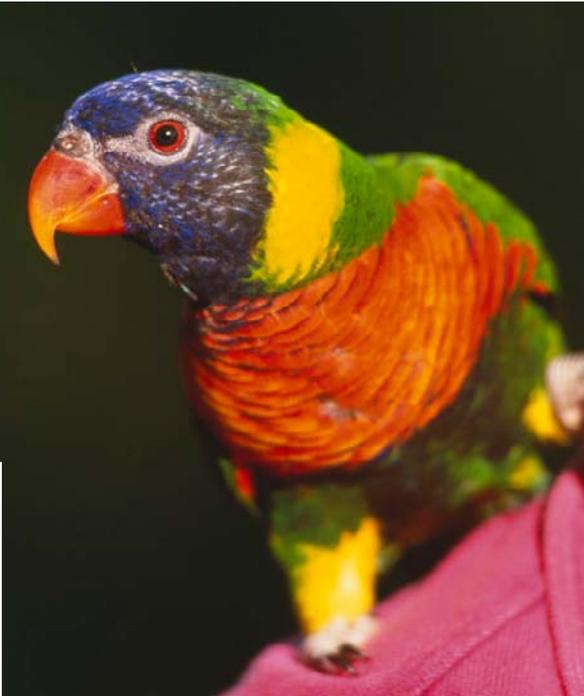
Fish make fun and easy pets to keep.

CON

Fish as Pets

Fish should be left in the
oceans and rivers.

Fish don't come when you call them.

They can't do any tricks.

And worse than that,

fish don't like to be touched.

Fish win the most **boring** pet award.

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Parrots as Pets

One of the best pets
to own is a parrot.

Parrots are very beautiful birds.

They often do not need a **cage**.

I love it when my parrot says "hello."

Some parrots even whistle.

Get a parrot and teach it to talk.

Parrots as Pets

Parrots are really messy pets.

They spill seeds and fruit all over.

They are not the best drinkers.

They get water on the floor.

Their feathers can even fall out.

Don't get a parrot unless you
like cleaning!

Conclusion

There are good things and
bad things about each pet.
You have to decide whether
the good things are great.
You have to decide whether
the bad things are okay for you.

You also have to do **research** to see whether your house is good for a pet.

Don't get a pet unless you have thought hard about it.

But the right pet can be your best friend!

Glossary

boring	not interesting (p. 11)
cage	an object made of bars or wire in which animals are kept (p. 12)
decide	to make a choice (p. 4)
playmate	someone to play with (p. 6)
opinions	beliefs based on feelings (p. 5)
research	careful study to find facts about a subject (p. 15)
weird	strange or odd (p. 9)

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