



Girlguiding Gwent Pet Challenge



Welcome to the Girlguiding Gwent Pet Challenge!

In this challenge we will learn about the importance of caring for animals and our pets. It is really important to encourage responsible pet care at an early age so this pack is suitable from Rainbows up to Ranger and Trefoil!

It is designed to be fun and informative and the activities are simply a starting point so please feel free to add your own ideas and expand on them to suit your needs.

The badge order form is at the back of the pack and the badge had GG Branding approval.

OUR PETS

DESIGN AN IMAGINARY PET

Draw a picture of your new pet.

Give it a name and think about what it would be like to live with and care for your new pet.

How does it behave?

What does it eat and drink?

How long does it live?

How often does it sleep?

Can you train it?

HAVE A CUDDLY TOY PET SHOW

Each girl could introduce their pet and tell the group a bit about them.

Prizes could be awarded for the fluffiest pet, the pet most like its owner etc.

You could also have races

MAKE A PHOTO WALL

Everyone should bring in a photo of their pet or a pet they would like to have.

If the photos are inside envelopes no one will know who each one belongs to.

Number them and pin them up on the wall or dot them around the room and see if anyone can guess who each pet belongs to.

CRAFTY PETS

Create your favourite pet out of craft materials.

This could be a collage, a mask, a clay sculpture or a 'shrink it' key ring.

Try out different techniques and materials until you find what best represents your pets.

If you don't have a pet, choose an animal you know or one you would like to have as a pet. Let your imagination run wild!

PET CARE

FIND OUT WHAT CARE PETS NEED

Choose a pet and research what shelter, diet, health and social needs it has.

Are there any laws relating to providing suitable care for pets?

You could go to the local library to find books on pets.

You could ask a vet or a breeder or find information on the internet.

Present this information in a poster, leaflet or short film

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO CARE FOR A PET?

Go to a pet shop and see how much food and pet accessories cost.

Find out about animal charity adoption fees and vet bills as well as boarding or pet sitting fees.

How much would it cost each week, month or year?

Choose another pet and compare the costs.

DOMESTICATION

Choose a pet animal and find out where it originated and how it was domesticated.

Have attitudes changed towards this pet over time?

Does it still resemble its ancestors?

PETS FOR PROFIT

Find out about the risks of irresponsible pet breeding and selling.

How are breeders and sellers licensed?

What are the problems associated with places like puppy farms?

Is there anything we can do?

PET GAMES

KIM'S GAME

Play Kim's game with pet accessories.

Place items or pictures such as collar, lead, catnip, vaccination card, blanket, water, food bowl, bottle, and treats in the middle of the circle and give the girls a set time to try to memorise them.

Cover the items and ask them how many they can remember.

Can they match each item with the pet that uses them?

ONLINE ANIMAL MATCHING GAMES

Play matching animal games either with pictures your leader can find online or play this fun matching game online

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/games/puzzles/article/matching-animals>

ACTING OUT ANIMAL IDIOMS

Below are famous animal sayings, or idioms. Have a go at acting some out and see if your friends can guess what they are.

Discuss what the sayings mean and why do you think we say them!

He's barking up the wrong tree

His bark is worse than his bite

Free as a bird

A little bird told me

Bird's-eye view

Play cat and mouse

Grin like a Cheshire cat

To let the cat out of the bag

Copypat

Catnap

Look what the cat dragged in

She's the cat's pajamas

Mean as a junk-yard dog

They look like a dog's dinner

Let sleeping dogs lie

You cannot teach an old dog new tricks

Ferret out the truth

Shooting fish in a barrel

A different kettle of fish

Like a fish out of water

Got bigger fish to fry

Like a big fish in a small pond

Nervous as a cat in a room full of rocking chairs

Don't count your chickens before they are hatched

Hen party

Curiosity killed the cat

Like a cat on a hot tin roof

Cat got your tongue

Not enough room to swing a cat

Raining cats and dogs

When the cat's away, the mice will play

Hair of the Dog

In the dog house

It's a dog eat dog world

Every dog has its day

Get someone's goat

As rare as hen's teeth

A scapegoat

Cannot say boo to a goose

Don't Look a gift horse in the mouth

Straight from the horse's mouth

Mutton dressed as lamb

Two shakes of a lamb's tail

When the cat's away, the mice will play

As stubborn as a mule

Rat race

HELPING PETS

VISIT

Arrange a visit to your local animal charity, stables, vet's surgery or reputable pet shop to find out about their work.

Many places run educational workshops.

Write a list of questions before the visit.

Take photos and make a scrapbook about what you have learnt.

VISITOR

Invite someone who works with animals to visit your meeting and tell you about their work.

This could be an animal charity worker, behaviourist or trainer, groomer, breeder or someone who owns unusual pets.

WORKING WITH ANIMALS

Find out about jobs working with animals - e.g. Vet, Vet nurse, Charity worker, RSPCA officer, Behaviourist, Groom, Riding instructor etc.

What is an average day like?

What qualifications or experience is needed?

How did they start out?

FUNDRAISE

Fundraise for an animal charity.

This could be a sponsored event, penny collection or food collection.

Contact a local charity to find out what they need, and what fundraising materials they have available.

PETS HELPING PEOPLE

Find out about pets that help people - e.g. Assistance animals, Therapy pets or Detection dogs.

How are these animals chosen and trained? How do they assist their owners?

FAMOUS PETS

Find out about a famous pet; watch a movie Greyfriars Bobby or Homeward Bound.
Find out about famous pet statues. Many towns immortalise famous pets.

Here are some links to famous pet stories.

The legend of Gelert

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/wales/craflwyn-and-beddgelert/discover-the-legend-of-gelert>

Balto

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Balto>

Barry

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barry_\(dog\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barry_(dog))

Swansea Jack

<https://swanseajack.co.uk/who-is-swansea-jack/>

Endal

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Endal>

PET ACTIVITIES AND FOOD TREATS

Here are some fun things to make for your pets

A pompom

<https://woodgreen.org.uk/pet-advice/cat/cat-pom-pom-toys/>

17 Dog Toys made from items around the home

<https://www.care.com/c/en-gb/17-diy-dog-toys-how-to-make-fun-safe-toys-f/>

Toys for bored fish

<https://www.tropicalfishexpert.co.uk/providing-toys-for-your-fish.html>

Dog food recipe

<https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/140286/homemade-dog-food/>

Dog treats

<https://itdoesnttastelikechicken.com/easy-homemade-dog-treats/>

10 homemade cat treats recipes

<https://www.care.com/c/en-gb/10-easy-homemade-cat-treats-your-cat-will-lov/>

Wild bird treat recipes

<https://www.lovethegarden.com/uk-en/article/wild-bird-food-recipes>

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM TO REQUEST YOUR BADGES

Name of Unit.....

County.....

Name of Guider.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Postcode.....

Tel No.....

Email.....

No.of Badges.....@ £1.20 each £.....

Postage and packaging:

Up to 10 badges - £1.60

11- 25 badges - £2.50

26+ - £3.60

Postage + Packing £.....

TOTAL COST £.....

Please make cheques payable to Girlguiding Gwent.

BACS details are available upon request

Please send your order to :-

Mrs Cathryn Brooker, 10 Maryport Street, Usk, NP15 1AB

Thank you for taking part in the Girlguiding Gwent Pet challenge! Please tag us in any social media you may share @girlguidingwent

