

STUDENT GUIDE 54.1

The Costs of Pets



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Situation/Problem

Imagine that you are thinking about buying a pet. You and your partner or group are to determine the costs of having this pet. Select any type of pet you like; then research its purchase price and all the costs necessary to keep it for a year. At the end of the project, you will summarize your findings in a brief report. You will also share your findings orally with the class.

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The Costs of Pets (Cont'd.)**Possible Strategies**

1. Consider the pet you would like to research. You may choose a common one such as a dog or a cat, or an exotic one such as a snake or tropical bird. (Remember that the less common the pet is, the harder it might be to find information.)
2. Consult reference sources on the pet you chose, and estimate the cost for keeping it for a year.
3. Consult online sources. Conducting a search for a specific pet will provide you with information. You can find Web sites that offer information about materials and equipment you will need for this pet by searching with the term "pet supplies."

Special Considerations

- For most pets, the information regarding costs will be presented in ranges or averages. Your final costs therefore will most likely be based on estimates.
- Include the purchase price of the pet, as well as all other costs. Keep in mind that some pets can be adopted for little or no cost.
- Since different pets have different needs, carefully consider the information presented on Data Sheet 54.2.
- Summarize your findings in a brief report; include an itemized list of costs and a total at the end. Write your report on a computer, which will make revision easier.
- Be prepared to explain your findings to the class.

To Be Submitted

Your report and costs.

Notes

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