

Veterinarian

There is a reason why veterinarian (or vet) ranks high on the career wish list of so many people. For animal lovers, what could be better than working with furry and feathered 'patients' all day? The pay is good. The average annual pay is over \$90,000. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, job prospects are expected to be much better than most careers over the next decade. And job satisfaction runs high.



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(Feel free to use the back of this sheet for longer answers)

What Do Veterinarians Do?

There are plenty of good reasons to consider being a veterinarian. But there is a catch. Veterinarians are medical doctors. Just like doctors who treat humans, vets diagnose and treat diseases, repair injuries, and perform surgeries. Also like doctors for humans, becoming a vet requires lots of schooling. It starts with getting excellent grades in high school in courses that include plenty of math and science. Then comes 4 years of college and 4 years of vet medical school. Most veterinarians work in private clinics and hospitals. Others travel to farms or work in laboratories, classrooms, or zoos.

Vet technician offers another path to working with animals. This route requires just a 2-year associates degree and prepares you to assist veterinarians in the care and treatment of animals.

CHALLENGE #1: Go online to find out...

What kind of skills you would need to do this job?

What would a typical day on the job be like?

What kinds of places could you work in?

How would you make a difference in the world?

Why would (or wouldn't) you like doing a job like this?

CHALLENGE #2: *Career Think Tank*

Next week is adopt-a-puppy week at your veterinary clinic! As a vet, you want to make sure that the families who adopt new pets know how to take care of them properly. That's why you are putting together an "everything you need to know about raising a happy, healthy pet" guide.

Make sure your guide includes tips for feeding, cleaning, and training the new pet. Don't forget to include a checklist for immunizations and well-puppy vet visits.

Both your human and canine clients will appreciate your expert advice as you help them get off to a good start.

