Your Dog's Health Record

**TASK**

1) Why is it important for your dog to have a routine physical examination?

2) Name _______ diseases your dog should be vaccinated against.

3) Why is it important to keep a record of your dog's medical and surgical history?

4) Why should fecal samples be taken to the veterinarian to be examined?

5) Why must a blood sample be taken prior to putting your dog on a heartworm prevention plan?

6) Define the following diseases:
   (Facilitator can pick the number)
   - Distemper
   - Coronavirus
   - Hepatitis/Adenovirus Type 2
   - Rabies
   - Leptospirosis
   - Bordetella
   - Parainfluenza
   - Lyme Disease
   - Parvovirus

**Exploratory Learning:**
**Educational Program**
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Your Dog's Health Record

ANSWER KEY

1) Q: Why is it important for your dog to have a routine physical examination?
A: • To discover any type of health problems
• So veterinarian can recommend preventive health care practices, such as vaccinations
• To detect disease conditions early
• To be a responsible pet owner

2) Q: Name _______ diseases your dog should be vaccinated against.
A: Rabies, Distemper, Hepatitis/Adenovirus Type 2, Parainfluenza, Leptospirosis, Canine Parvovirus, Coronavirus, Bordetella, and Lyme Disease

3) Q: Why is it important to keep a record of your dog's medical and surgical history?
A: • To be a responsible pet owner
• So you can make others aware of any health problems
• If you sell or give away a pet, the new owner knows its history
• So you know why your dog may be acting a certain way

4) Q: Why should fecal samples be taken to the veterinarian to be examined?
A: To see if the dog has any parasites or other health problems that can be detected in the feces.

5) Q: Why must a blood sample be taken prior to putting your dog on a heartworm prevention plan?
A: To find out if the dog has heartworms. If the antigen test is positive, the dog must be treated and free from heartworms before being put on a prevention plan.

6) Q: Define the following diseases:
A: See the form "YOUR DOG'S HEALTH RECORD/Vaccination Information" for the description of these diseases.
Use this poster in conjunction with Match the correct dog behavioral posture name and description to the correct diagram situation/task statement and Dog Behavioral Postures - Names and Dog Behavioral Postures - Descriptions identification tags.
Common Internal Parasites

Heartworm
- Heartworm of dogs -
Dirofilaria immitis.

This slender roundworm is 120 to 310 mm long in the adult stage. Adults live in the pulmonary artery and the right ventricle of the heart. Many worms are usually found together in a tangled mass. They are spread from dog to dog by mosquitoes. The female heartworms release living larvae (microfilariae) directly into the dog’s bloodstream. These larvae are then removed from the infected dog’s bloodstream by the mosquito. After developing in the mosquito for 10-14 days, the larvae are transmitted to another dog when the mosquito takes another blood meal. They develop further, taking about six months to reach the heart as mature worms. Dogs with this infestation have a shortness of breath and shallow cough, and tire easily.
Common Internal Parasites

Hookworm
- Northern carnivore hookworm -
  Uncinaria stenocephala

This adult worm is 10 to 20 mm long and lives off blood in the small intestine, causing severe anemia and diarrhea in a puppy or young dog. Small and hair-like in shape, the blunt anterior end is bent dorsally. The body is reddish because of being a bloodsucker. The larval stage of this parasite can cause skin irritation, especially between the toes, in dogs that lie on damp, dirty bedding.
Common Internal Parasites

Roundworm

- Dog ascarid -

Toxocara canis

The most common of the internal parasites. Adults live in the small intestine and range in length from 4 to 18 cm. They may be passed in the stool and look like thin spaghetti. They may cause mild vomiting and diarrhea, with round, curled, white-pink worms being passed. Puppies may become infected while in the fetal stage and have adult worms in their intestines at the age of only two weeks. A puppy infected with a heavy load of T. canis worms will have a dull coat and potbellied appearance. It will either suffer weight loss or not gain weight well. It may cough, hiccup, and could even suffer from convulsions.
Common Internal Parasites

Tapeworm
- Tapeworm of dogs and cats -
*Dipylidium caninum*

This flat, segmented worm is 15 to 80 cm long in the adult stage. Cysticercoids (larvae) attach to the walls of the small intestine. This worm infestation is most commonly noticed by finding small, dried egg sacs like rice grains in the hair around the anus. They can also be seen moving in the dog's feces. There are two species of this worm, *Dipylidium caninum* and *Echinococcus granulosus Taenia*. *Dipylidium* spends a part of its life cycle in the flea and *Taenia* spends a part of its life cycle in the rabbit or mouse. The dog must ingest an infected flea, rabbit, or mouse to become infected.
Canine Awareness, Care, Handling, Health and Management

Common Internal Parasites

Whipworm
Roundworm of dogs (whipworm)
Trichuris vulpis

This worm, which lives in the cecum and large intestine, is 45 to 75 mm long in the adult stage. The anterior three-fourths of its white body is very slender and threadlike, and the remainder is quite thick. These worms can cause diarrhea with enough bleeding to produce anemia. They usually occur in young dogs kept in filthy conditions. They are most common in warm climates. The dog will drag its rear along the ground because of the irritation caused by these worms.
Common External Parasites

**Flea**
- fleas of dogs and cats -
*Ctenocephalides canis and C. felis*

This mahogany-colored, bloodsucking parasite is 1 to 2.5 mm long as an adult. Females lay about 10 eggs at a time and may lay several hundred during their lifetime. Their life cycle can be completed in about three weeks, but could take as long as two years, depending on temperature and humidity. They spend most of their indoor life in carpets and upholstered furniture. Some dogs are allergic to the saliva left in the bite wound and scratch excessively. This parasite may cause anemia, transmits tapeworm and other diseases, and causes great irritation. The small black specks found in the dog's hair are the fecal droppings of this parasite.

Exploratory Learning: Educational Program
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Canine Awareness, Care, Handling, Health and Management

Use this poster in conjunction with Match the correct name and description to the external parasite diagram situation/task statement, Common External Parasites - Names and Common External Parasites - Descriptions identification tags, and Common External Parasites diagram cards.

Common External Parasites

Louse
- biting louse - *Trichodectes canis*
- sucking louse - *Linognathus setosus*

This parasite is about 2 mm in length as an adult. It buries its mouth parts in the skin of the dog and sucks blood. Engorged with blood, it appears oval, grayish-to-blue, and moves sluggishly on the surface of the skin in the dog's coat. This irritation causes scratching, which may lead to skin problems. A high infestation may cause anemia due to the blood sucking. This parasite lays its eggs in the dog's coat, attaching them firmly to the hair. The eggs, called "nits," are light-colored and waxy-looking.

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Posters, Charts, Diagrams, and Cards
Common External Parasites

Mite - walking dandruff mite -
Cheyletiella spp.

This microscopic parasite burrows into the skin causing severe itching and thickening of the skin. Affected areas, especially elbows and tips of ears, become scabby, crusty, and itchy. There are hair loss and body sores. The "mouse odor" given off by the skin may be noticeable. Infection can spread rapidly from dog to dog and also may be transmitted to humans.
Dogs acquire these parasites by running through wooded areas, tall grass, shrubbery, etc. These parasites vary in size and shape. They may be brownish or red in color, flat in shape, and no longer than 1/4 inch; or, when engorged with blood, they may appear as large as coffee beans and gray in color. They are more prevalent in late spring and summer and in warm climates. These bloodsucking parasites can cause anemia, paralysis, Lyme disease, or Rocky Mountain spotted fever. Both Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever can be transmitted to humans by infected parasites.
Blood Supply in the Nails of a Dog

The blood supply in a short nail.

Note how the blood supply gets longer as the nail grows.

a. A cut here will cause bleeding and the nail will still be too long.
b. Trim here.
The blood supply will begin to get shorter.

As the nail gets shorter, so does the blood supply.

Only when the nail is kept short can it be trimmed without bleeding.

a. Cutting line

If you clip or file a little off a long nail every few days, the blood supply will continue to recede.

A properly trimmed nail.

Exploratory Learning: Educational Program
This component adapted from materials in the 4-H Dog Care Book
Product distribution through the Curriculum Materials Service

Posters, Charts, Diagrams, and Cards
Use this poster in conjunction with Using a dry erase marker, complete the health record for your dog or a friend’s dog and Complete YOUR DOG’S HEALTH RECORD using the information given situation/task statements, Your Dog’s Health Record task and answer key, and Completing the Vaccination Record activity card.

Your Dog’s Health Record

My Veterinarian is:

Name
Address
City  State  Zip
Phone

Physical Examinations
The importance of routine physical exams cannot be overstressed. Problems can be discovered during a physical exam even in apparently healthy animals. The findings of the examination give the veterinarian the necessary information to recommend preventive health care procedures such as vaccinations. Detection of disease conditions early in their course provides the best opportunity for successful treatment and often with less expense.

Exploratory Learning: Educational Program
This component adapted from Your Pet’s Health Record (Harwood House, Inc., 1980).

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Vaccination Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Type of Vaccine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distemper</td>
<td>Parovirus, A, B, C, D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis</td>
<td>Adenovirus A 2, 7, 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leptospirosis</td>
<td>Any serogroup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parainfluenza</td>
<td>Parainfluenza A, B, C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parvovirus</td>
<td>Canine Parvovirus A, B, C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coronaviruses</td>
<td>Canine Coronavirus 2, 5, 6, 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabies</td>
<td>Rabies Vaccine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bordetella</td>
<td>Bordetella Vaccine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyme Disease</td>
<td>Tick Vaccine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Healthy Dog

A healthy dog is happy, active, and eager to participate in various activities. Regular exercise is important to keep your dog healthy and fit. Exercise helps to maintain weight, strengthen muscles, and improve your dog’s overall health.

Signs of Ill Health

Because dogs enjoy human companionship, they will often try to behave normally even when sick. For example, if your dog refuses to eat, you might try to tempt her with a special treat. If your dog is ill but you don’t notice any other signs, you may not realize that something is wrong.

Dog Care Checklist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prepare facilities before I get my dog</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide adequate housing and bedding</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide nutrition and internal parasitic control</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed a balanced commercial dog food</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevent outdoor activities</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practice good management procedures</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep my dog healthy</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Train my dog to behave</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep my dog up-to-date on vaccinations</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observe my dog daily and report any change in behavior</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note any unusual behaviors</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep my dog and my surroundings clean</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep my dog in a secure area</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practice regular exercise</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide adequate care</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Use this information in conjunction with the bathing diagram cards and the bathing steps identification tags.

1. Select a warm, draft-free environment for the bath. Brush dog to remove dead hair, mats, etc. before bathing.

2. Gather all the equipment needed — cotton balls, tub, rubber mat, hose or pitcher, shampoo, towel, brush and dryer.

3. Place the rubber mat in the bottom of the tub to prevent the dog from slipping.

4. Place a cotton ball in each ear to protect it from water.

5. Lift the dog into the tub, holding it firmly so it does not slip or try to get away.

6. Using a pitcher or washing hose with a sprayer, wet the dog thoroughly with lukewarm water. (Warm or hot water causes the pores to open, increasing shuddering.) Begin on its feet, legs, and lower body before proceeding upward. (This order will accustom the dog to the water temperature.) After dog's body is thoroughly wet, carefully wet the head, taking care not to get water in the eyes or ears.

7. Apply a shampoo designed for dogs, in small amounts, on the dog's body. (Do not use detergents.) Rub the shampoo into the coat, allowing it to penetrate for 2-4 minutes. Be sure to clean behind the ears, under the chin, between the toes, under the elbows and flank areas, and in the rectal area.

8. Apply a small amount of shampoo to the dog's head. Lather, using the fingers, being careful not to splash water and shampoo into the dog's eyes or mouth. (For dogs with sensitive eyes or bulging eyes, you can put one or two drops of mineral oil or eye drops for dogs into each eye to reduce irritation.)

9. Rinse and towel dry head first. This helps prevent the dog from shaking water everywhere.

10. Thoroughly rinse the dog's body with lukewarm water, working from the front to back, and topline to feet. After completely rinsing out all the shampoo, depending on the type of hair coat of your dog, apply a cream rinse or conditioner designed for dogs. Allow to remain on the coat for 2-5 minutes, then thoroughly rinse.

11. Squeeze excess water from the coat. Lift dog from tub. Towel dry using a large towel.

12. Remove the cotton balls from the ears and dry insides of ears. Do not poke into the ear canal.

13. A hair dryer, set on warm, can be used to dry the dog's hair provided the dog's skin is healthy and not prone to itchiness. Be careful not to hold the dryer too close to the dog's hair. Brush the dog's hair while drying.

14. You have a clean dog! (Reward your dog after the bathing is finished.)
Use this activity card in conjunction with Match the nail trimming diagram cards to the steps in the proper sequence situation/task statement, Nail Trimming diagram cards, and Nail Trimming - Steps identification tags.

Nail Trimming

Procedures and Techniques

Use this information in conjunction with the Nail Trimming diagram cards and the Nail Trimming - Steps identification tags.

1. With your dog sitting beside you, place one of his/her paws in your hand and gently pull it forward. Firmly hold the dog's paw and push to extend the nail.

2. Find the quick. In white nails, you can see the pink area inside, called the quick, which contains the blood vessels and nerves. In dark nails, the quick is harder to see. You may be able to see where the quick begins by using a flashlight. If the quick is cut, the nail will bleed.

3. Begin trimming 1/4 inch below the quick and gradually work your way toward the quick, stopping prior to cutting into the quick. When trimming dark-colored nails, begin trimming a little at a time until you see a black dot in the center of the nail. This is the quick. The closer you come to the quick, the more pronounced the spot will be. Stop before cutting into the quick. If you cannot see the quick, stop cutting just behind the point at which the nail begins to curve downward. Trim on a 45° angle, with the end of the nail trimmer toward the nail.

4. If you accidentally cut into the quick, do not panic. Put some styptic powder (clotting powder or cauterizing agent) on the end of a moist cotton swab and press it firmly against the nail. Hold for several seconds. The bleeding will stop.

5. Using a nail file, file the nail in a sweeping motion starting from the back of the nail and following the curve to the tip. Filing the nail will remove any rough edges, leaving the nail smooth. Remember to trim your dog's dewclaws if he/she has them.
Tie the two ends of a bandage together into an overhand knot, leaving a loose loop at the bottom.

Slip the loop under the dog's chin with the overhand knot resting on the dog's foreface. Pull up the ends, tightening the overhand knot so the bandage fits snugly but not too tight.

Bring the ends back under the chin and once again tie an overhand knot.

Pull up the two ends, tightening the second overhand knot so that the bandage fits snugly but not too tight.

Use these diagram cards in conjunction with Arrange the (improvising a muzzle) diagram cards and steps in the proper sequence and Properly apply the muzzle on Fluppy using the technique you have learned situation/task statements, and Improvising a Muzzle - Steps identification tags.
Use these diagram cards in conjunction with Arrange the (improvising a muzzle) diagram cards and steps in the proper sequence and Properly apply the muzzle on Fluppy using the technique you have learned situation/task statements, and Improvising a Muzzle - Steps identification tags.

5. Bring the loose ends around the ears and tie them together into a secure bow behind the head.
Use these diagram cards in conjunction with **Arranging the bathing diagram cards and identification tags in the proper sequence** situation/task statement, **Bathing a Dog - Procedures and Techniques** activity card, and **Bathing a Dog - Steps** identification tags.

1. Brush the dog to remove mats and dead hair.
2. Gather the equipment needed for bathing.
3. Place a rubber mat into the bottom of the tub.
4. Place a cotton ball in each ear to protect it from water.
Use these diagram cards in conjunction with **Arrange the bathing diagram cards and identification tags in the proper sequence situation/task statement, Bathing a Dog - Procedures and Techniques activity card, and Bathing a Dog - Steps identification tags.**

5. Lift the dog into the tub.

6. Wet the dog using a pitcher or washing hose with a sprayer.

7. Shampoo the dog's body.

8. Shampoo the dog's head.
Use these diagram cards in conjunction with Arrange the bathing diagram cards and identification tags in the proper sequence situation/task statement, Bathing a Dog - Procedures and Techniques activity card, and Bathing a Dog - Steps identification tags.

10. Rinse the dog's body.

11. Squeeze excess water from coat. Lift dog from tub and towel dry.

12. Remove cotton balls from ears.
Use these diagram cards in conjunction with Arrange the bathing diagram cards and identification tags in the proper sequence situation/task statement, Bathing a Dog – Procedures and Techniques activity card, and Bathing a Dog – Steps identification tags.

13. Dry brush the dog’s hair.

14. You have a clean dog!
Use these diagram cards in conjunction with Match the nail trimming diagram cards to the steps in the proper sequence situation/task statement, Nail Trimming - Procedures and Techniques activity card, and Nail Trimming - Steps identification tags.

1. Push the paw to extend the nail.
2. Find the quick.
3. Properly trim the nail.
4. Use styptic powder to stop bleeding if cut into quick.
Use these diagram cards in conjunction with Match the nail trimming diagram cards to the steps in the proper sequence situation/task statement, Nail Trimming - Procedures and Techniques activity card, and Nail Trimming - Steps identification tags.

5. File the nail.
Use these diagram cards in conjunction with Arrange the (lifting a large dog) diagram cards in the correct sequence and match the proper handling descriptions to each diagram card and Using Fluppy, demonstrate the proper way to pick up a large dog situation/task statements, and Lifting a Large Dog - Steps identification tags.

1. Talk to the dog to reassure it before picking it up. If you do not know the temperament of the dog, muzzle it first.

2. Place one arm around the dog’s chest and forelimbs.

3. Place the other arm around its rear end.

4. Bending your knees, draw the dog in to your chest.
Use these diagram cards in conjunction with Arrange the (lifting a large dog) diagram cards in the correct sequence and match the proper handling descriptions to each diagram card and Using Fluppy, demonstrate the proper way to pick up a large dog situation/task statements, and Lifting a Large Dog - Steps identification tags.

5. With your back straight and a secure grip on the dog, lift it up.
Use these diagram cards in conjunction with Arrange the (lifting a small dog) diagram cards in the correct sequence and match the proper handling descriptions to each diagram card and Using Fluppy, demonstrate the proper way to pick up a small dog situation/task statements, and Lifting a Small Dog - Steps identification tags.

1. Talk to the dog to reassure it before picking it up. If you do not know the dog's temperament, muzzle it first.

2. Place one hand under its forelimbs and chest.

3. Place the other hand around its rear end and hind legs.

4. Lift the dog by supporting the chest with one hand, keeping the other under the dog's rear end and hind legs.