

Student Name

Date

Gathering Evidence about Choosing the Best Classroom Pet

- **Choosing the Right Classroom Pet**
<http://www.spca.bc.ca/Educators/rightpet.asp>
This site lists seven different types of pets that are suitable for classroom pets. Each animal is evaluated on its life span, size, origin, status, diet, and pros and cons when compared to the other animals. The site also has links to other pages with information on caring for classroom pets and lists of the benefits of classroom pets. The site is developed by the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals so the information given on the site is reliable and accurate.
- **Pet Web Site**
<http://www.petwebsite.com/default.asp>
This site has lots of information about many kinds of pets. It includes many of the pets that could be classroom pets. You can pick the pet you want information about by clicking on it. There are articles, book reviews and care information. Be careful, though, there are links for products on sale and eBay listings. These sponsors may influence some of the information, so this site may not be the best place for information to help us choose a classroom pet.
- **AVMA's Care for Animals**
<http://www.avma.org/careforanimals/default.asp>
This site is from the American Veterinary Medical Association. It was written by vets that take care of animals. The links help you decide on which pet is best for you. There are questions you can answer to see what kind of pet will work best for your space, family, and activities. The site also has puzzles, games, and playsheets that teach you how to be a good pet owner. This information would be very useful in selecting a classroom pet.
- **Classroom Animals and Pets**
<http://www.teacherwebshelf.com/classroompets/>
This site was created by a teacher and is part of the TeacherWebShelf web site. It provides information on housing, food, maintenance, characteristics, and food for different animals that can be classroom pets. Educational ideas and curriculum to involve classroom pets in the curriculum are provided. The pictures on the site make it to locate information on this site, but the website has not been updated since July 2001. Although the information may still be accurate, it will need to be compared to information from other sources to make sure it is still usable.
- **ASCPA Animaland**
<http://www.animaland.org/>
The Animaland site was created by the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA). The ASPCA knows a lot about animals and about pets.

They are experts at choosing pets. The site has links for an Animal Encyclopedia, Career Center, Pet Care Guide, and more. The Animal Encyclopedia shows pictures of lots of animals with links to more information. But most of these animals would not be good pets. The Pet Care Guide has better links. They are to animals that could be good pets for a classroom. The links have great information on each of these pets.

- Petfinder

<http://www.petfinder.org/>

The Petfinder site has information on animals that would be good pets. It is easy to click and choose the pet you want to learn more about. You can pick by animal, breed, and size. The site has information on how to adopt pets and will help you find pets to adopt. The site is sponsored by Purina, Heartguard, Frontline, and Petco, but I did not find any influences from the sponsors. This would be a great site to help us adopt a classroom pet after we decide which pet is best.