



Why do some animals go to the SPCA?

Fact

- The SPCA stands for the Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals (it's sometimes known as the RSPCA – the Royal Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals)
- So the SPCA is a place that offers safety and care for animals in need.
- The SPCA takes in lost animals, animals that the owners hand over because they can't keep them any more and lots of animals that have been taken from their owners because they've been badly treated and are sick.
- The SPCA gives those animals shelter, food and water, medicine, safety, exercise and love. Something every animal needs.

Do you know

- The first SPCA in New Zealand was formed in Otago over 120 years ago and there are now around 50 SPCAs in New Zealand.
- SPCAs offer advice on:
 - the best pet to get for your family
 - how to look after different pets
 - what to do when your pet is sick
- An pet needs to be looked after and fed and loved all its life not just when it's a pretty little kitten or cute puppy
- A way you can help the SPCA is to make sure your pet has been de-sexed so it can't have any babies.
- One female cat can have as many as 131,072 kittens
- One female dog can have as many as 781,250 puppies

Experiments you can do

Pick your favourite pet animal and find out all the things a pet like that needs. What is the best kind of food for that animal? Does it need special exercise? Does it have a coat that needs brushing daily or shampooing regularly? Is it a dog that needs registering once a year and needs regular visits to the vet? What kinds of things are bad for your favourite pet?

Other Investigations

A pet is just like you in that it needs good meals every day, fresh water to drink, shelter from the cold and rain or from the hot sun, medicine when it's sick and lots of love. Pick your favourite pet animal then imagine you are that animal. How would you feel if you were left outside in the cold and the rain all day without anything to eat or drink?

Jokes

It's raining cats and dogs. I know. I just stepped in a poodle.
From Amrun