# Animal Science II- Small Animal

Unit B- The Small Animal Care Industry

## **Essential Standard 3.00**

Discuss the importance of the small animal industry.

# Objective 3.01

 Discuss careers and skills needed for employment in the small animal care industry.

- Economic
  - \$38.5 billion to national economy (2006)
- Companions to 60% of American Families
  - Children learn responsibility
  - Improves quality of life for elderly
  - 68.7 million households with at least one companion animal

- Product testing
  - Develop drugs and vaccines
    - Hepatitis, diphtheria, tetanus, and polio vaccines

- Pet therapy
  - Relieve depression
  - Reduces heart disease
- Watch dogs, police dogs, seeing eye dogs
- Rabbit meat
  - Low in cholesterol, sodium and fat
- Fur and wool

- Exhibition
  - Zoos, circus acts, etc.
- Rabbits provide multiple benefits
  - Pets
  - Food
  - Clothing
  - Research

#### **Economics**

- Retail pet stores
  - 15,000-18,000 in the U.S.
- Biomedical research
  - Supported by \$15 billion in taxes and charity
  - 65-100 million small animals
- Education
  - 6 million used for dissection

#### **Economics**

- 4 million small animals used in the LD50 test
- Americans spending on pets
  - \$20.3 billion



#### **Economics**

- Veterinary expenses
  - \$9.2 billion annually
  - Supplies and OTC medicines \$9.3 billion
  - Grooming and Boarding \$2.7 billion
- Dogs require twice as much for veterinary care as cats
- Pet food manufacturers produce \$15.4 billion in sales (2006)

## General Pet Ownership

- 10 million more cats than dogs (81.7 to 72 million)
  - Each owner averages two cats
- More households have dogs (37.2%) than cats (32.4%)
- Fish, birds, and rabbits rank third, fourth, and fifth respectively.

## Job Types

- Care and management industry
  - Pets
  - Lab animals
  - Zoo animals
  - Health
  - Training
  - Biological Sciences
- Food and equipment supply

# Job Types

- Pharmaceutical and biotechnology research
  - Hospitals
  - Universities
  - Diagnostic Labs
  - Private firms

# Job Types

- Exhibitors
  - Operates animals acts
    - Carnivals
    - Circus
    - Fairs (Cleveland County Fair)
    - Zoo
    - Marine mammal displays

- Pet care worker
  - Boarding kennels
  - Animal hospitals
  - Shelters
  - Pet stores
  - Training schools
  - Ret grooming parlors

- 2. Kennel attendants
  - Feeds and cares for <u>animals</u>
  - Cleans
- 3. Animal groomers
  - Bathes, brushes & trims hair and nails
- 4. Dog trainers
  - Teaches the dog to obey signals or commands

- 5. Small Animal Breeders
  - Raise & market fur-bearing animals, lab animals, and supply animals for pet shops
  - Usually specialized for one breed
- 6. Pet shop owners and managers
- 7. Dealers
  - Sell lab animals
    - Research
    - Education

- Veterinarians (DVM)
  - Control animal injuries and disease
  - Disease prevention
  - Inspection
    - Meat and animals products
  - Surgery
  - Establish diets
  - Prescribe medications



- 9. Vet. Technicians
  - 1. Assist veterinarians and other staff

- Skills needed:
  - Previous experience as a keeper
  - Part-time volunteer work
    - Shelters
    - Pet shops
    - clinics