



Summer Prose

age 8, going into third grade

Tell me about your pets.

SP: I have a cat and two dogs. The dogs are Fluffer and Daisy, and the cat is Puddy Tat.

Do you like cats or dogs better? Why?

SP: Cats, because I've always liked them better. They're softer.

What is the strangest pet you've ever known someone to have? Would you want one?

SP: A lizard. I kinda want one, because some of them can turn different colors.

What animal do you think makes the most boring pet? Why?

SP: Fishes, because they don't do anything but eat and swim around.

What is the most trouble your pet has ever gotten into?

SP: Puddy Tat climbs the curtains, and he ate the baby birdies in the backyard.

What's the hardest part of taking care of a pet?

SP: You have to let them outside, and at the end of the day, you have to catch them to come inside.

How old do you think a kid has to be to take care of a pet by herself? Why?

SP: 5. When you're 5, you can remember to feed them.

How does your pet make your family's life better?

SP: Because when you're sad, you can cuddle them.

Benjamin Parson

age 5, going into first grade

Tell me about your pets.

BP: Tramp. He's a beagle.

Do you like cats or dogs better?

BP: I like both better.

What animal do you think makes the most boring pet?

BP: Birds.

What is the most trouble your pet has ever gotten into?

BP: Tramp tears up things. Then he goes to time out in the backyard.

What's the hardest part of taking care of a pet?

BP: That you need to take him out.

How old do you think a kid has to be to take care of a pet by himself? Why?

BP: I was 4, and now I'm 5. That's good.

Who takes care of the pets in your family?

BP: I do. I put him outside. My mom feeds him, though.

If you could have any wild animal as a pet, what animal would you pick?

BP: I just want the beagle dog.

Zoey Elliott

age 6, going into second grade

Tell me about your pets.

ZE: We don't have any pets right now.

Do you like cats or dogs better? Why?

ZE: Cats. They're more potty-trained.

What is the strangest pet you've ever known someone to have? Would you want one?

ZE: A Chihuahua. It has little ears that stick out. Not really.

What animal do you think makes the most boring pet? Why?

ZE: A bird, because you just sit there and watch it.

What's the hardest part of taking care of a pet?

ZE: Feeding them and cleaning up their poop.

How old do you think a kid has to be to take care of a pet by herself? Why?

ZE: Any age, because you can just pet them and someone can help you feed them.

If you could have any wild animal as a pet, what animal would you pick?

ZE: A cheetah, because I could ride on his back.

If you were an animal, what kind of animal would you be?

ZE: A cheetah, so I can run fast and beat the other animals.

Luke Elliott

age 9, going into fourth grade

Tell me about your pets.

LE: We used to have fish.

Do you like cats or dogs better? Why?

LE: Dogs, because cats scratch up your sofa.

What is the strangest pet you've ever known someone to have? Would you want one?

LE: I would have to say a crab. No, I wouldn't want one.

What animal do you think makes the most boring pet? Why?

LE: That crab, I guess. They only move sideways and don't do too much.

What's the hardest part of taking care of a pet?

LE: Cleaning up the poop.

How old do you think a kid has to be to take care of a pet by himself? Why?

LE: 8, because that's a decent age.

Would you like your family to have a pet again?

LE: Yes. It adds fun.

If you could have any wild animal as a pet, what animal would you pick?

LE: A chipmunk, because they run fast. I see them all the time in the yard outside. We've caught them a few times.