

Read the article “How to Pick a First Pet” before answering Numbers 1 through 10.

## How to Pick a First Pet

Is your family ready for a pet? What kind of pet is best? You may be unsure. Answering these questions may help you decide.

### How does your family feel about pets?

Be sure everyone wants a pet. Talk with your family. Having a pet can be a lot of work. Many tasks must be completed every day. Find out if everyone is willing to help care for the pet.

### What kind of pet do you want?

You may want a pet that stays in one place. Fish and hermit crabs can live in tanks. A bird can live in a cage.

You may want a small pet. Think about getting a guinea pig or hamster. These pets live in cages. But you can take them out to pet them. They can be fun to hold. Watching them play can be fun, too.

Dogs and cats are bigger pets. They need room to move around. Dogs need to be walked outside. Kittens and puppies need to be trained. Playing with dogs and cats can be fun.

### How much will your pet cost?

Some pets cost a lot. Some pets do not like living alone. You may need to buy more than one. Some pets need a special cage. Some need special food.

### **How much time do you have for a pet?**

You will need to spend time with your pet. You will need to talk to it or pet it. Every day the pet needs food and water. You may need to give it exercise. You may need to clean up after it. A good pet owner brushes furry pets.

### **Who will care for your pet?**

Make a list of jobs family members can do. Someone can feed the pet. Someone can clean the cage. Someone can play with the pet. Be sure everyone knows who will do what job.

### **Where will your pet live?**

Think about how much space your pet needs. **Can** it live in a small cage? Does it need a yard to play in? Good pet owners want the pet to be happy.

Learn as much as you can about the pet. Read books. Talk to people who own this kind of pet. Ask to spend time with it. Then you will really know if this kind of pet is right for your family.



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Now answer Numbers 1 through 10. Base your answers on “How to Pick a First Pet.”

1 Read this sentence from the article.

**Many tasks must be completed every day.**

What does the word *completed* tell you about the tasks?

- Ⓐ They are hard to do.
- Ⓑ They need to be done.
- Ⓒ They change all the time.
- Ⓓ They can take a lot of time.

2 Which pet can live in a tank?

- Ⓕ bird
- Ⓖ crab
- Ⓗ guinea pig
- Ⓘ hamster

3 Which word has the SAME root word as *watching*?

- Ⓐ catching
- Ⓑ washing
- Ⓒ watches
- Ⓓ willing

- 4 How are guinea pigs and hamsters good pets?
- F They live in cages.
  - G They stay in one place.
  - H They can be fun to hold.
  - I They need room to move around.
- 5 Which word has the SAME root word as *walked*?
- A all
  - B talked
  - C wake
  - D walks
- 6 What special care do dogs need that other pets do NOT need?
- F to be fed
  - G to be held
  - H to be washed
  - I to be walked outside
- 7 Which word shows an action that already happened?
- A train
  - B trained
  - C training
  - D trains

- 8 Good pet owners want the pet to
- F play in a yard.
  - G live in a cage.
  - H live alone.
  - I be happy.
- 9 What is the root word of *brushes*?
- A bush
  - B bushes
  - C brush
  - D rushes
- 10 How can you learn more about a type of pet before you buy it?
- F by reading books about the pet
  - G by spending time with other types of pets
  - H by finding out if your family wants a pet
  - I by thinking about how much time pets need

Read the article “How to Set Up a Goldfish Tank” before answering Numbers 11 through 20.

## How to Set Up a Goldfish Tank

A goldfish is a good pet. Goldfish are fun to watch. They are easy to care for, too. But they need the right home. You may think a goldfish is happy living in a little bowl of water. This is not true! A goldfish needs more room.

Keep your goldfish in a tank. It is better than a bowl. A tank holds more water. Your fish will have more room for swimming.

First, choose a safe place for the tank. Put the tank where it will not fall. Do not put the tank near a window. The sun may make the water too warm. Next, fill the bottom of the tank with tiny rocks. Add bigger rocks and a few plants. You can put in toy ships. These all make good hiding places for your fish.

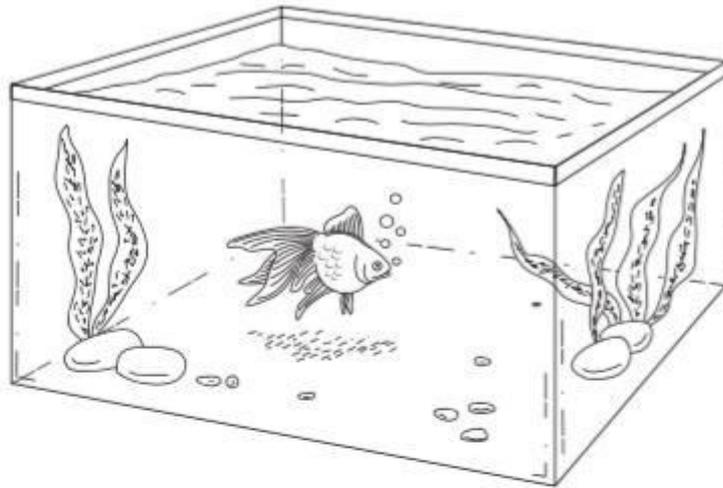
Finally, fill the tank with water. Wait a few days before you put your fish in. Check that the water stays clean. Buy a pump to clean the water. Dirty water makes fish sick.

Now you can add your fish! When you buy the fish, you will bring it home in a plastic bag filled with water. Let the bag float in the tank for half an hour. The fish will get used to being in the tank. Then, open the bag. Let the fish swim out!

Buy goldfish food for your fish. Do not feed your fish too much! Extra food makes the water dirty. It sinks to the bottom of the tank. Just give your fish what it can eat.

Put a cover on the tank. This keeps the fish safe. Nothing can fall into the tank and your fish cannot jump out. If the cover has a light, you can watch your fish at night.

Each week the tank needs to be cleaned. Take out some old water. Add some new water. Scrape the walls of the tank if they look dirty. But do not worry. Your tank does not have to be spotless. Just keep the water clean. Your fish will be happy!



Now answer Numbers 11 through 20. Base your answers on “How to Set Up a Goldfish Tank.”

- 11** Which word has the SAME root word as *living*?
- Ⓐ alive
  - Ⓑ believe
  - Ⓒ having
  - Ⓓ liked
- 12** What might happen if a tank is put near a closed window?
- Ⓕ The cover might blow off.
  - Ⓖ The lights might not work.
  - Ⓗ The water might get too warm.
  - Ⓘ The tank might fall out the window.
- 13** What is the root word of *swimming*?
- Ⓐ simmer
  - Ⓑ swam
  - Ⓒ swim
  - Ⓓ swims

- 14 How long should a new goldfish float inside its bag to get used to the tank?
- F one day
  - G one week
  - H half a day
  - I half an hour

- 15 Read this sentence from the article.

**These all make good hiding places for your fish.**

In the word *places*, the *-s* means

- A puts.
  - B more than one.
  - C it is happening now.
  - D it already happened.
- 16 Why might water get dirty in a goldfish tank?
- F The tank has too much water.
  - G The tank has too many rocks.
  - H The tank has too much uneaten food.
  - I The tank has too many hiding places.

- 17 Which word has the SAME root word as *used*?

- A dues
- B sued
- C us
- D using

- 18** Why should a tank have a cover?
- Ⓕ so water will spill
  - Ⓖ so the water stays cool
  - Ⓗ so the fish will not jump out
  - Ⓘ so the fish are easier to watch
- 19** Which word has the SAME root word as *cleaned*?
- Ⓐ clearer
  - Ⓑ earned
  - Ⓒ leaning
  - Ⓓ unclean
- 20** Which information would BEST tell how to make hiding places for fish?
- Ⓕ Fish like to be in an empty tank.
  - Ⓖ This person is feeding a fish.
  - Ⓗ This person is pouring water in a tank.
  - Ⓘ This person is putting big rocks in a tank.