

WHICH PET TO GET?



Pets can be an important part of family life.

Do your homework first:

- Call a veterinarian or humane society. Borrow books and videos to learn about pets and the care they need.

Which pet is right for your family:

- Consider your family's lifestyle and activity level.
- Consider the amount of space that your home offers, indoors and out.
- Consider how much time each person can spend caring for the pet. Older pets can involve less work than a young animal.

Preparing for the new addition:

- Be prepared to do some of the work. Children under 10 are not ready to do all of the work to care for a pet. Even older kids need reminding!
- Make a chore list for pet care tasks.
- Stress that pets are not toys and must be respected. Teasing and yelling scares animals and can lead to behaviour problems. Hurting a pet can lead to biting and scratching.
- Stress that pets need quiet time away from the family.



Thunder Bay District
Health Unit