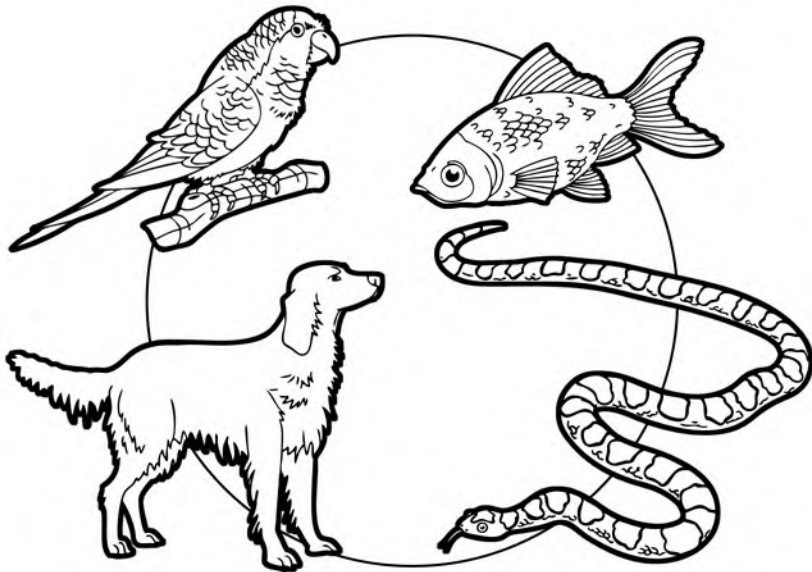


CYCLE
10

THE WORLD AROUND YOU

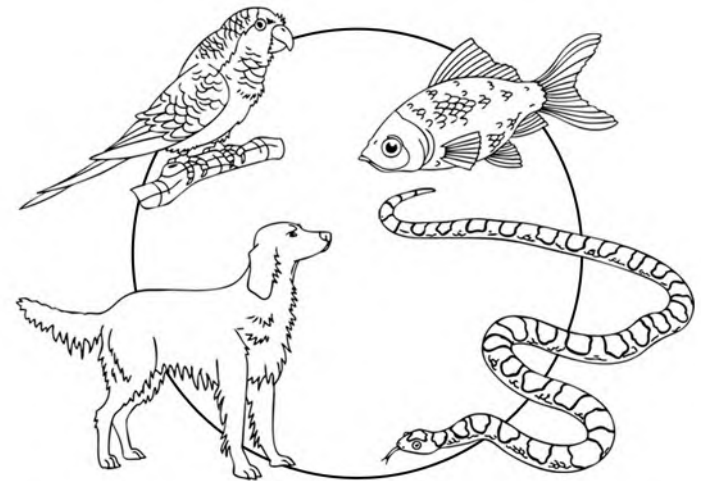
Pets



Pets

Written by Ian McBee

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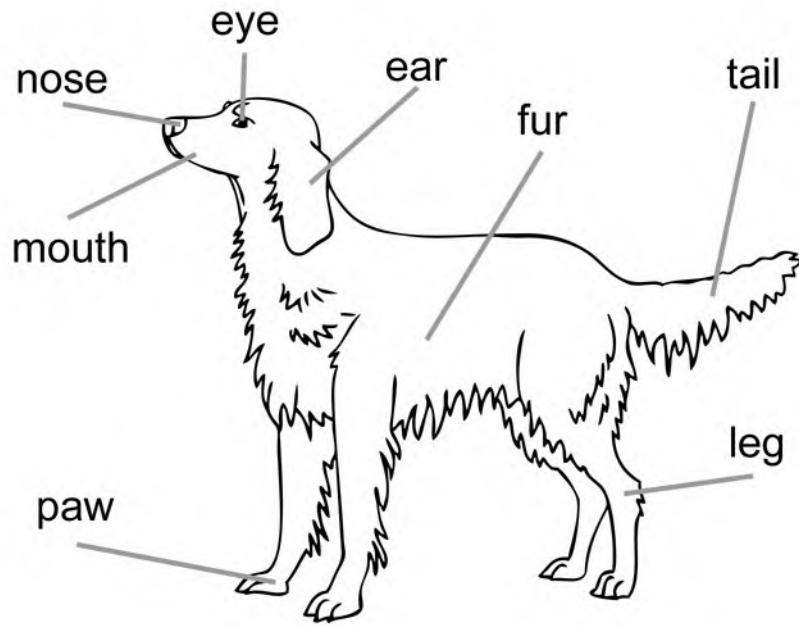
Dogs

Dogs are popular pets. Learning about dogs can help you decide if a dog is the right pet for you and your family.



Types of Dogs

All dogs are not alike. Small dogs may weigh less than 5 pounds. Large dogs can weigh over 200 pounds. Puppies are baby dogs. A puppy will grow quickly within one year. An adult dog can live 15 to 20 years.

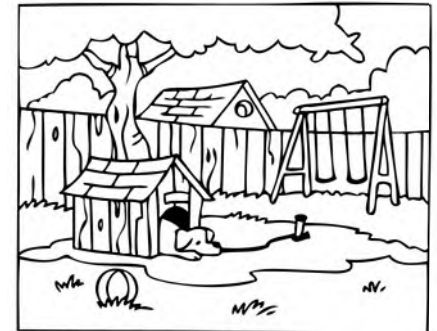


Dogs have different types of fur too. Their fur may be curly or straight. Some dogs have short hair, or fur. Other dogs have long hair.

Caring for a Dog

There are a few things that every dog needs. They need exercise every day, to be fed twice a day, and plenty of cool, clean water to drink.

A dog needs a bed too. Dogs that live outdoors need a dry, clean doghouse.



Doghouse in a shady backyard.

Dogs should go to the vet once a year.
The vet will give them shots and check
their eyes, ears, teeth, and weight.
A healthy dog will
live a long time.



*The vet gives a
nose to tail check-up.*

There are many things to think about
when choosing the right dog for you.

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Snakes

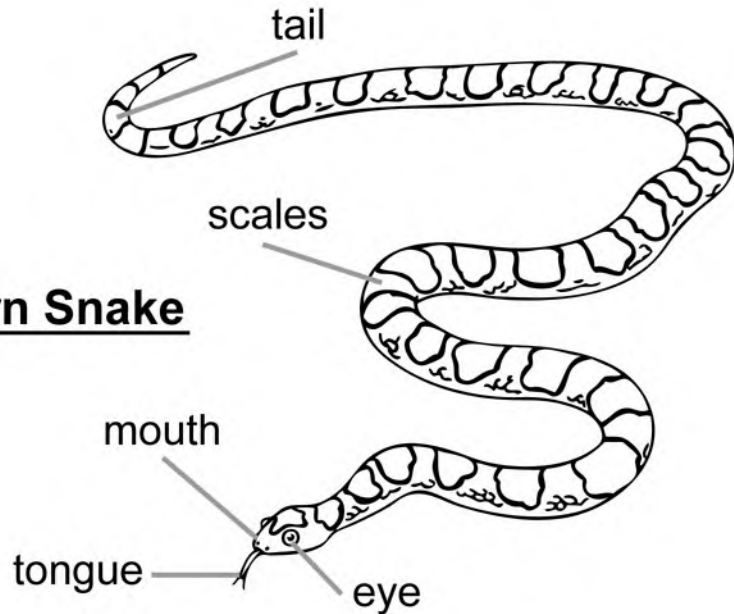
Snakes are interesting animals. Many
are harmless and make good pets.
Learning about snakes can help you decide
if a snake is the right pet for you.



Types of Snakes

Common pet snakes are corn snakes,
king snakes, and ball pythons. These
snakes are usually gentle. They are
clean, dry-skinned animals with smooth
scales that look shiny.

Corn Snake



These snakes hatch from eggs and grow to be about 5 feet long. An adult corn snake can live about 20 years.

Caring for a Snake

A large aquarium with a tight lid makes a good home for a snake.

Keep a tight lid on the aquarium so the snake will not escape.



The snake will also need a heat lamp to stay warm, wood shavings for a bed, and a large dish of clean water.

Young snakes are fed small mice twice a week. Adult snakes only eat one large mouse every 2 weeks.

Snakes swallow their food whole.



Owning a snake is not for everyone. It is important that the whole family is comfortable with this choice of pet.

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Fish

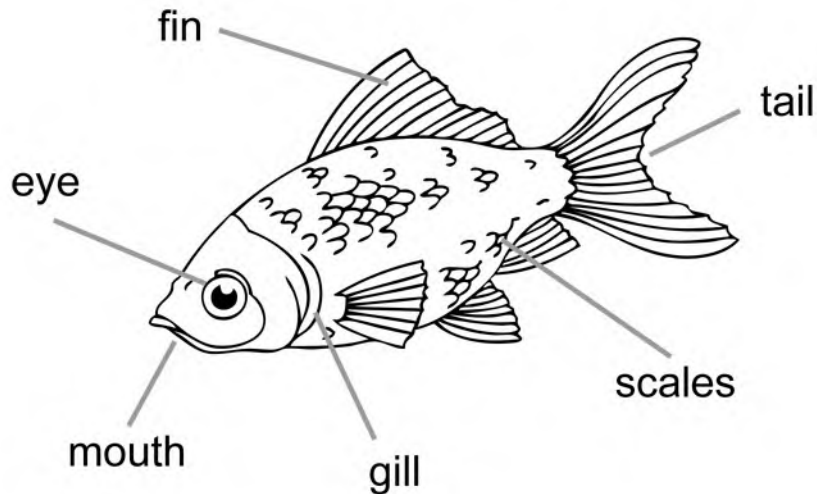
Have you ever thought about getting a fish for a pet? Take time to learn about fish to see if this is the right pet for you.



Types of Fish

The most common type of pet fish is a goldfish. They are mainly golden colored, but can be white, brown, and yellow too. They can have single tails, double tails, bubble eyes, and pointed or square heads.

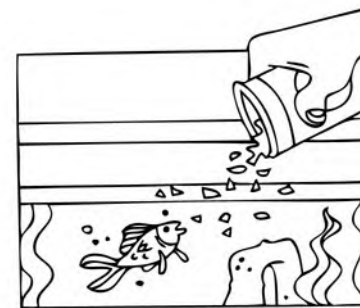
Goldfish



Adult goldfish that live in aquariums grow to be about 3 to 4 inches long. Goldfish can live for about 10 years.

Caring for a Fish

Goldfish need a large aquarium. One goldfish can live in about 10 gallons of water. The water needs to stay about the same temperature all the time. If the water gets too cold or too warm, the goldfish will die.

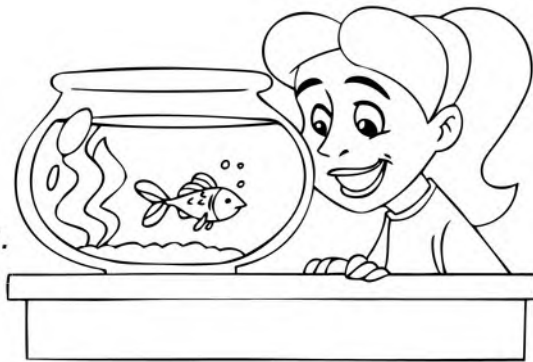


*Do not overfeed
the fish*

Goldfish should be fed special food once or twice a day. Do not overfeed them. Only give goldfish as much food as they can eat in about two minutes.

Goldfish like to eat live plants in the aquarium too. Make sure the types of plants will not harm the fish.

Goldfish are beautiful to watch.



Even though you cannot hold a fish, these animals make good pets. Goldfish bring a lot of enjoyment to their owners.

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Birds

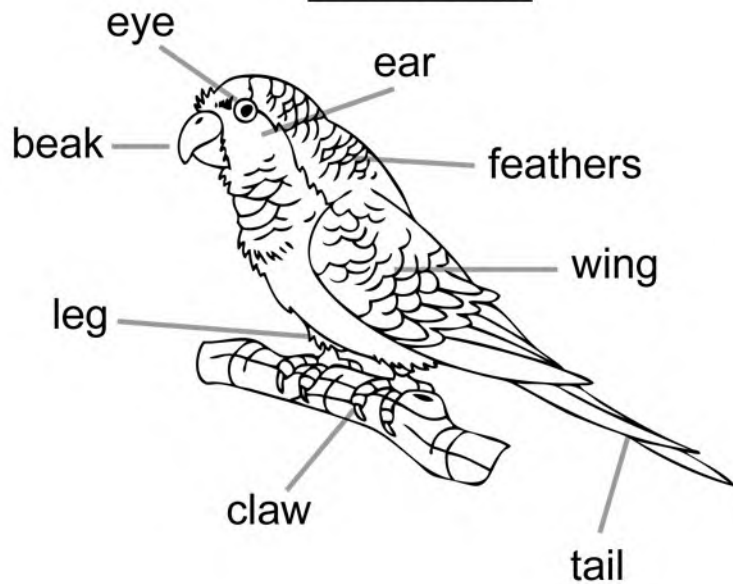
Birds makes wonderful pets for people of all ages. Make sure you learn about a bird to see if it is the perfect pet for you.



Types of Birds

Birds come in many sizes and colors. Cockatiels and parakeets are the most common types of pet birds. They are known to be gentle birds that get along well with people.

Parakeet



After the bird hatches, it can fly about 2 months later. A bird is an adult at about 9 months old. The cockatiel and parakeet can live as long as 30 years.

Caring for a Bird

A bird needs a cage with enough space to fly around and get exercise. Birds with long tail feathers need large cages.



Bird sitting on a perch.

Some large birds, like parrots, need a space outside of their cage to get more exercise.

Birds need to be fed special food to stay healthy. Some birds also eat fresh vegetables and seeds. Some birds can be very noisy and messy. Small birds, like finches or canaries, are quieter and cleaner than large birds.

*Some birds
can learn to talk.*



Finding the bird that is right for you is the best way to have a long and happy life with your pet.

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