

Infant June 2017



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1 	2
5 	6	7 	8	9
12 	13	14 	15 Gifts for Dad!	16
19 	20 Bubble Fun	21	22 Water Play	23
26 	27	28	29	30

The Benefits of Pets for Kids

Adding a furry or feathered friend to your household can be a wonderful thing. Some of the bigger perks: Pets can boost self-esteem and lower stress for everyone in the family, and they can teach your little one a lot about love.

They Teach Kids Values

With a pet in the house, even the youngest toddler can pick up a few pointers about responsibility. Of course you'll take on most of the pet-care chores, but your tot will absorb a lot from your nurturing example, like the importance of being kind and gentle. He can even lend a tiny hand with the easier jobs, like pouring food into a dish. By pitching in, he'll realize that pets, just like people, need food, shelter, exercise, and love, teaching him valuable lessons about empathy and compassion.

They Boost Self-Esteem

There's research showing that kids with family pets have higher self-esteem. Why? Probably because they have a four-legged (or two-legged) creature to love who loves them right back, and a friend to talk to and play with when no one else is around.

They're Good for Everyone's Health

Experts say that children who grow up with pets are less likely to develop common allergies thanks to early exposure to certain bacteria. (Of course, some children are genuinely allergic to animals — so check on that before you take the plunge.) And some research shows that pet owners tend to get sick less often. Another pro to pets? Brushing, patting, or stroking a furry creature can lower stress levels — and that's just as true for moms and dads as it is for kids.

Taken from: <http://www.whattoexpect.com/kids-and-pets/benefits-of-pets.aspx>