Proper Pet Discussion and Group Activity

**Audience/Group Setting**
This activity was designed for students in grades 3 – 7 in a classroom setting.

**Goal**
To encourage discussion and research with regards to proper pets

**Objectives**
To promote research into any future potential pets

**Big Idea/Main Message**
It is important to learn about any animal before acquiring one as a pet

**Environmentally Responsible Behavior Addressed**
Be a responsible pet owner.

**Background Information**
Children regularly become interested in specific animals, and in many cases, develop an interest in having that animal as a pet. Countless pets are purchased each year without the knowledge necessary to properly care for the animal.

**Materials Needed**
A printer, paper, and pencils/pens

**Staff**
One person can facilitate this activity.

**Length of Activity**
30-45 minutes

**Set Up**
Print the necessary amount of discussion sheets and Proper Pet cards for each participant or group.

**Procedures**
Separate students into groups of 2-6. Chose whether to hand each student a discussion sheet or hand one sheet to a group discussion leader. Ask the students/groups to answer the discussion questions. Once completed, have the students/groups share their answers with each other.

**Extensions**
Pass out the Proper Pet Fact Finder sheets to your previously formed groups. Page 1 has five questions designed to encourage the students to research information related to the care required for pets. The students will answer the questions with the information found on page 2. Page 2 provides the students with basic information on five different animals (Cockatoo, Tabby Cat, Common Boa, Chinchilla, and a Labrador). Once the students have finished answering the questions, have them share their answers with the rest of the group.