



What is a Veterinarian?

SUGGESTED GRADE LEVEL 1

Objective	To explore the similarities and differences between a pet's examination by a veterinarian and a child's examination by a pediatrician. To learn about some of the tools that veterinarians use to keep pets healthy.
Materials	<i>Activity Sheet</i> Venn Diagram

<p>Activity Procedure</p> <p>National Standards:</p> <p>Science 6.7 Science as a human endeavor</p> <p>English 12.3 Evaluation strategies 12.4 Communication skills</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain that a pediatrician is a doctor who cares for young children. Ask the students: <i>What kinds of tools does a pediatrician use to examine you? How does the doctor use these different tools?</i> Write the names of the tools on the board. 2. Ask children to indicate with a show of hands if any of them has ever taken a pet to see a doctor. On the board, write the word "Veterinarian." Say the word aloud, and ask the children if they know what it means. Build on children's responses by explaining that a veterinarian is a doctor who treats and cares for all kinds of animals. 3. Then distribute copies of the Activity Sheet and ask students to fill in the Venn diagram to show what tools pediatricians use and what tools veterinarians use when doing a wellness exam. 4. Once their diagrams are complete, ask the following questions: <i>What information does this diagram give us? What would be a good name for this diagram? How many tools do both veterinarians and pediatricians use?</i>
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Social Studies/Language	EXTEND THIS LESSON
	<p>Arrange for a field trip to a veterinary hospital or invite a veterinarian to come to class to speak to children about his or her job. Ask children to write out a question before visiting the hospital or before the guest appears. You may also ask children to create a special name tag for your visitor and write a thank-you note to the hospital or speaker that includes a reference to something that the children found interesting or learned.</p>
Dramatic Arts	<p>Set up an area of your room to represent a veterinary hospital. Have children bring in a favorite stuffed animal "pet" to the hospital for a wellness check. Have some children act as hospital staff who check the pet in and weigh it. Have one or two children pretend to be veterinarians and listen to the pet's heartbeat and check its eyes, ears, and temperature.</p>

Name _____ Date _____



Venn Diagram

Pediatricians

Veterinarians

