

# Become a Pet Detective: Uncovering Animal Care Secrets!

Hi Liv! Today, you're going to be a super sleuth, a **Pet Detective**! Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to uncover the secrets to keeping our animal friends happy and healthy. This will be a hands-on adventure where you get to be creative!

## Your Detective Kit (Materials Needed):

- Large paper or poster board
- Colored markers, crayons, or colored pencils
- Old magazines with animal pictures (optional, for cut-outs)
- Scissors (with supervision if needed)
- Glue stick
- A computer or tablet with internet access (for guided research, with an adult's help if needed)
- Pen or pencil
- Our special 'Pet Profile' guide sheet (can be a blank paper you design!)

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## Your Mission Briefing:

### Part 1: The Case of the Basic Needs (Approx. 20-30 minutes)

Every pet has secret needs to live a joyful life. Let's uncover them!

1. **Brainstorm Time:** On a piece of paper, jot down or draw what you think all animals need to survive and be happy. Think about your own pets if you have them, or pets you know!
2. **Detective Research:** With an adult's help, you can look up 'basic needs of pets' or 'five freedoms for animals' online. We're looking for about **five main things**. Write these down. *(Teacher Note: Focus on food, water, shelter, healthcare, and companionship/enrichment. Provide pre-selected, visually-rich websites or printed materials if preferred to simplify research for APD.)*
3. **Choose Your Subject:** Pick one common pet you'd like to investigate further (e.g., a dog, a cat, a hamster, a fish, a rabbit). This will be the star of your 'Pet Care Profile'!

### Part 2: Creating Your 'Pet Care Profile' Poster (Approx. 45-60 minutes)

Now it's time to get creative and make a fantastic visual guide for your chosen pet! This is where you show what you've learned.

1. **Gather Your Supplies:** Get your poster board, markers, and any other art supplies.
2. **Poster Design:** Your poster should be eye-catching and easy to understand. Here are some sections to include (you can draw, write, or use magazine cut-outs!):
  - **Title:** e.g., "Luna the Labrador's Super Care Guide!"
  - **Picture of Your Pet:** Draw it or find a picture.
  - **All About Me:** (Species, breed if applicable, a fun fact!)
  - **My Daily Menu:** (What does it eat? How often? Fresh water details.)
  - **My Cozy Home:** (What kind of shelter or living space does it need? Bedding, cage setup, etc.)
  - **Keeping Me Healthy:** (Visits to the vet, grooming needs like brushing, nail trims, bathing if applicable.)
  - **My Happy Place - Play & Fun!:** (This leads to our next step!)

3. **Make it Awesome!** Use lots of colors, drawings, and clear, simple words. Remember, this is *your* creative profile!

### **Part 3: The Enrichment Innovator Challenge! (Approx. 20-30 minutes)**

Pets need more than just food and shelter; they need fun and things to do to keep their minds and bodies active! This is called **enrichment**.

1. **Brainstorm Enrichment:** For the pet you chose for your profile, think of **two new and exciting ways** to keep it entertained and happy. This could be a homemade toy, a new game to play, or a cool way to set up its environment. Be creative!
2. **Describe Your Ideas:** On your poster or a separate sheet, describe or draw your two enrichment ideas. Explain briefly:
  - What is the activity/toy?
  - How would you make it or do it?
  - Why would your chosen pet enjoy this and why is it good for them?

### **Part 4: Case Closed - Present Your Findings! (Approx. 10-15 minutes)**

Well done, Detective Liv! It's time to share your amazing work.

1. **Show and Tell:** Present your 'Pet Care Profile' poster. Point to the different sections and explain them.
2. **Share Your Innovations:** Tell us about your two special enrichment ideas and why they're brilliant for your chosen pet.

### **Mission Debrief:**

- What was the most surprising thing you learned about caring for your chosen pet?
- How can what you learned today help you or others take better care of animals?
- What's one thing you'd do right away if you were looking after this pet?

**Fantastic work, Detective Liv! You've shown you have a great understanding and a big heart for animal care!**