Fun Kids’ Project: First Aid Kit for Pets

Being prepared in an emergency is especially important for pets since they are dependent on us for care. Here’s a fun yet practical project for kids to learn about pet safety and emergency preparedness.

Supplies for Your Pet’s First Aid Kit:

1. Selecting a container
   A waterproof container is a good idea, but not completely necessary. Airtight Ziploc bags can help provide the essentials with the waterproofing they’ll need. Remember, you’ll want a container that is easily portable and will not become cumbersome. Assemble the list of items below first to determine the size of the container.

2. First Aid Kit basics
   The basic supplies for a first aid kit are scissors, tweezers, cotton balls/swabs, 2 rolls of gauze (one can be used to tie a muzzle in a pinch), flexible bandage tape, antiseptic spray or wipes, antibiotic ointment (Neosporin), rubbing alcohol, saline solution and hydrogen peroxide. These will provide you with first aid and wound dressing essentials.

3. Other items
   Flashlight and extra batteries, bottled water, light weight blanket, extra leash and collar, muzzle (remember, the gauze can also act as a muzzle), latex gloves and paint stir sticks. Paint stir sticks make great splints. They’re generally available free from the any of the big box retailer paint departments.

4. Pet medical records
   Remember to include your pet’s medical records. These are extremely important, especially during travel. You will want to ensure the records are stored in a waterproof bag.

5. Decorate the First Aid Kit container
   This is a very fun and creative aspect of the project. Allow the kids to use their imagination to personalize the container and make it easily recognizable for quick access.

Finally, encourage a discussion about safety and emergency preparedness for the entire family, including pets. Yes, this is a serious topic, but asking the kids to create your pet’s first aid kit will help them to enjoy the process and remember what they’ve learned!