PET TRAINER

Job Description:

**Pet** **Trainers** help prepare pets to perform certain tasks or refrain from exhibiting undesirable behaviors. Pet Trainers will work closely with pets, monitoring their behavior and physical condition, and their owners or handlers to determine their expectations and discuss the pet’s progress and abilities. A pet trainer is responsible for creating a training program to promote a pet's good behavior. They help pet owners train their pets. A few of the main duties of a pet trainer are identifying problem behaviors, teaching the owner methods to train their pet, developing a training plan for the pet, and creating a welcoming environment. They also have to understand the owner and pet's needs.

Job Responsibilities:

* Speaking with pet owners or trainers to determine their goals and expectations.
* Developing an understanding of pet behavior.
* Creating training regimes for pets.
* Monitoring pets for health and behavioral issues, learning about their unique abilities.
* Feeding and medicating pets.
* Using positive reinforcement and other techniques to elicit desired pet behavior.
* Providing updates to other parties about the progress and condition of the pets.
* Educating others about pets, their behavior, training, and the environment.
* Providing general care to pets, such as grooming, cleaning habitats or sleeping areas, and familiarizing pets with human voices and contact.
* Some positions may require assistance with breeding the pets.
* Create a training plan for the pet
* Teach commands to the pet and owner
* Be patient with a stubborn pet
* Teach owners about pet behavior
* Understand an owner's needs
* Work with the owner to teach them about their pet
* Teach owners how to reinforce good behavior
* Listen to pet owner concerns

Job Qualifications:

* High school diploma
* Certification through the Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers required
* Experience working with pets
* Experience as a pet trainer

Opportunities as a pet trainer are available for applicants without experience in which more than one pet trainer is needed in an area such that an experienced pet trainer will be present to mentor.

Job Skills Required:

* Love for pets
* Familiarity with the following:
  + Operant conditioning
  + Positive reinforcement
  + Clicker training
  + Hand signals
  + Voice commands
  + Reward systems
* A working understanding of pet behavior
* A working understanding of pet psychology
* A working understanding of human psychology
* Exceptional patients and tolerance
* Ability to multi-task and prioritize work
* Ability to recognize pet issues that prevent training
* Attention to detail and problem solving skills
* Resourcefulness and ability to problem solve
* Outstanding communication and interpersonal skills
* Ability to not take customer issues personally
* Good listening skills
* Sound understanding of pet behavior.
* The ability to stand for long periods of time.
* The ability to treat all pets with compassion.
* The ability to lift heavy pets and equipment.
* Excellent communication skills.
* Exceptional customer service skills.