ANIMAL CARE SPECIALIST

Job Description:

**Animal** **Care** **Specialists** groom, feed, and train animals. They may work at shelters, veterinary offices, boarding facilities, farms, or other animal venues. Your specific job duties vary, depending on your employer. For example, some animal care specialists train animals to follow commands and stop doing bad behavior, such as biting, while others groom and care for animals that participate in scientific studies. In this role, you may exercise animals, clean their living areas, provide obedience training, or interact with customers to demonstrate animal care techniques. Some animal care specialists work nights, weekends, or holidays because many animals need round-the-clock care.

Job Responsibilities:

* Dematting and detangling hair as required.
* Bathing, conditioning, and drying animals.
* Trimming animals’ nails, brushing their teeth, and cleaning their ears.
* Grooming and styling animals according to animal owners’ instructions or standard grooming styles.
* Accommodating special requests that animal owners may have.
* Identifying health issues in animals, such as ear infections, skin conditions, or tooth decay, and informing animal owners of these observations.
* Ensuring that all animals are safe during the grooming process.
* Routinely cleaning work areas.
* Recommending suitable products to animal owners.
* Ability to manage animal’s behavior
* Treat all animal’s humanely
* Performs a hands on animal assessment on all animals to recommend services and build trust with the animal parents
* Perform animal grooming services to breed standards and to client’s personal preferences
* Maintain a high level of cleanliness, sanitation, and humane conditions for all animals in the grooming area.
* Ensure the safety and well-being of every animal and associate in the store, taking immediate action whenever necessary
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* Accommodating special requests that animal owners may have.
* Identifying health issues in animals, such as ear infections, skin conditions, or tooth decay, and informing animal owners of these observations.
* Ensuring that all animals are safe during the grooming process.
* Routinely cleaning work areas.
* Recommending suitable products to animal owners.
* Ability to manage animal’s behavior
* Treat all animal’s humanely
* Feed animals to owners instructions and standards
* Ensure animals always have clean fresh filled water bowls
* Keep animal’s area clean of urine and stool
* Provide animal bedding as instructed by owner
* Monitor for signs of stress in animal and act accordingly
* Provide scheduled walks, training, and play time for animals

Job Qualifications:

* High school diploma
* Experience working with animals
* Experience as a animal care specialist

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

Job Skills Required:

* Love for animals
* Working understanding of animal behavior
* Ability to wash, cut, and groom animal hair
* Ability to provide animal services such as teeth brushing, nail clipping, etc
* Ability to multi-task and prioritize work
* 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 animal behavior.
* The ability to stand for long periods of time.
* The ability to treat all animals with compassion.
* The ability to lift heavy animals and equipment.
* Excellent communication skills.
* Exceptional customer service skills.