



Lesson Plan

Humane Society SAE Video

Created: 07/2022 by the National FFA Organization

Description of Lesson: *Have your students ever visited an animal shelter or the local humane society? This lesson gives them a chance to see a student in action through her SAE at the local humane society where she provides treats and toys to the animals and works with them on their obedience and training.*

Student Learning Objectives:

After completing these activities, students will ...

1. Determine the six essential nutrients for dogs and describe their functions.
2. Describe the importance of meeting the nutritional needs of an animal.
3. Analyze and recommend ideal dog food choices for various dogs and scenarios.

Suggested Grade Level:

Grades 9 and 10 (This lesson is written so instructors can scale up or down based on class needs.)

Suggested Time: 120 minutes (*Time requirements may vary based upon student understanding and class schedule.)

Resources/References:

1. Video: Humane Society SAE- Nichole Ford, <https://vimeo.com/315691987>
2. Website: Kentucky Humane Society, <https://www.kyhumane.org/>
3. Website: Tractor Supply, https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/catalog/dog-food?cm_sp=Header_Shop_-_Dept_-_Dog+Food
4. Website: Tractor Supply (Science Diet), <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/brand/Hill%27s+Science+Diet?>
5. Website: "Diamond Naturals Dog Food," Tractor Supply, https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/diamond-naturals-skin-coat-formula-all-life-stages-dog-food-30-lb?cm_vc=-10005
6. Website: "Merrick Grain Dog Food," Tractor Supply, https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/merrick-grain-free-real-chicken-sweet-potato-4-lb-bag?cm_vc=-10005
7. Website: "Dog Food Catalog," Tractor Supply, <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/catalog/dog-food>

Related Resources:

1. National FFA Veterinary Science CDE, <https://www.ffa.org/participate/cdes/veterinary-science/>

Spanish Translations:

1. Link

Equipment and Supplies Needed:

1. A copy of the "Savory Treats" worksheet for each student
2. A copy of the "Selecting an Ideal Dog Food" worksheet for each student
3. An individual or group copy of the handout "Supplemental Information: Basics of Animal Nutrition"
4. Internet access to play the video in real time or embed it in a PowerPoint ahead of time
5. Optional: If your students don't have access to the internet, you could print out the labels and needed information from the website to complete the "Selecting an Ideal Dog Food" portion of the lesson.

Vocabulary:

1. Exotic vet
2. Specialty animals
3. Nutrition
4. Ration
5. Balanced ration
6. Energy
7. Digestive system
8. Lactation
9. Colostrum
10. Roughages
11. Concentrates
12. Amino acids
13. Crude protein
14. Digestible protein
15. Macrominerals
16. Microminerals
17. Free choice

Cross-Curricular Connections:

Mathematics

- Students will calculate prices of dog food per serving to determine which is more cost effective.

Virtual Instruction Ideas:

This entire lesson can be taught virtually. All student handouts can be sent or posted electronically.

Student Activity Sheets:

Direct access to student activity sheets without lesson plan or answer key for easy upload to a learning management system or printing for classwork.

Link (Word) <https://ffa.app.box.com/file/986414067586?s=dckwwyylrtOp0aboyz1kevol2d8w1moy>

Link (PDF)

Link (Google)

These Activities Are Aligned to the Following Standards:

AFNR Performance Element

- AS.03. Design and provide proper animal nutrition to achieve desired outcomes for performance, development, reproduction and/or economic production.

FFA Precept

- FFA.PL-A. Action: Assume responsibility and take the necessary steps to achieve the desired results, no matter what the goal or task at hand.
- FFA.CS-M. Communication: Effectively interact with others in personal and professional settings.
- FFA.CS-N. Decision Making: Analyze a situation and execute an appropriate course of action.

Common Career Technical Core

- AS.03. Design and provide proper animal nutrition to achieve desired outcomes for performance, development, reproduction, and/or economic production.

NASDCTEc

- AGPC01.03 Provide proper nutrition using accepted protocols and processes to maintain animal performance.

Common Core – Reading: Informational Text

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-10.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-10.2 Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.

Common Core – Speaking and Listening

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.1.A Come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well-reasoned exchange of ideas.

Common Core – Math Practices

- CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP1 Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP4 Model with mathematics.
- CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP7 Look for and make use of structure.

AFNR Career Ready Practices

- CRP.02. Apply appropriate academic and technical skills. Career-ready individuals readily access and use the knowledge and skills acquired through experience and education to be more productive.
- CRP.04. Communicate clearly, effectively, and with reason. Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas, and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal and/or visual methods.
- CRP.05. Consider the environmental, social, and economic impact of decisions. Career-ready individuals understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people, organizations, and the environment.
- CRP.06. Demonstrate creativity and innovation. Career-ready individuals regularly think of ideas that solve problems in new and different ways, and they contribute those ideas in a useful and productive manner to improve their organization.
- CRP.07. Employ valid and reliable research strategies. Career-ready individuals are discerning in accepting and using new information to make decisions, change practices or inform strategies.
- CRP.08. Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. Career-ready individuals readily recognize problems in the workplace, understand the nature of the problem, and devise effective plans to solve the problem.
- CRP.09. Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management. Career-ready individuals readily recognize problems in the workplace, understand the nature of the problem, and devise effective plans to solve the problem.
- CRP.11. Use technology to enhance productivity. Career-ready individuals find and maximize the productive value of existing and new technology to accomplish workplace tasks and solve workplace problems.

Partnership for 21st Century Skills

- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Information Literacy
- Initiative and Self-direction
- Productivity and Accountability
- Think Creatively
- Leadership

Lesson Plan:

1. **Bell Ringer:** Show students images of human foods commonly fed to dogs. Ask them to identify which of these items are toxic to dogs. (**Toxic foods:** raisins, walnuts, macadamia nuts, onions, garlic, grapes, mushrooms, chocolate, Xylitol [found in gum and candy], caffeine, alcohol)
Discuss how these items can wreak havoc on dogs and what they should do if their dog consumes one of these items.
2. **Introduction:** Students will get the chance to see a unique SAE that shows a glimpse of feeding dogs by watching the Humane Society SAE video, <https://vimeo.com/315691987>, and completing a worksheet. Next students will dive into learning how to properly feed a dog through learning the six required nutrients for dogs and which diet is appropriate for a dog based on its age, breed, gender and lifestyle. Students then wrap up with making ideal dog food recommendations for various scenarios.
3. **Activity 1:**
 - a. Part 1: Each student needs a copy of the worksheet “Savory Treats.” Students will view the video and complete the worksheet. Students may need access to the internet to complete the worksheet.
 - b. Part 2: Students learn more about the purpose and roles of humane societies and how they can help their local facilities. Students should use the provided website along with other resources to complete the questions about humane societies.
4. **Activity 2:** Students will need to review the “Supplemental Information: Basics of Animal Nutrition” handout to learn more about the nutritional needs of dogs (this handout is the last page of the student activity sheets). This supplemental information gives students the foundation to complete the activity “Selecting an Ideal Dog Food.” Upon reading the supplemental information, students should be able to utilize the provided websites to complete this activity.
5. **Optional – Extended Learning Opportunities (Not factored into time requirement):**
 - a. As a class, have students make dog treats and cat toys for your local animal shelter. This website provides several easy-to-make recipes: [Easy To Make Dog Treats](#).
 - b. Have students develop a digital poster that depicts the ideal diet for a breed of dog of their choice.
6. **Exit Ticket:** Ask students to answer the following questions:
 - a. What is one thing you learned from this lesson?
 - b. What is one question you still have about feeding dogs or other animals?
 - c. What was your favorite part of this lesson?

Name: _____

Aligned to the following standards: AS.03; FFA.PL-A; FFA.CS-M; FFA.CS-N.; AS.03; AGPC01.03
CCSS.ELA.RI.9-10.1 CCSS.ELA.RI.9-10.2 CCSS.ELA.SL.9-10.1; MP1 ; MP4; MP7; CRP.02; CRP.04;
CRP.05; CRP.06; CRP.07; CRP.08; CRP.09; CRP.11

Savory Treats

Part 1

Directions:

Watch this video about a Humane Society SAE, available at <https://vimeo.com/315691987>, to complete the activities below.



Circle in **RED** each of the ingredients that Nicole uses in her dog treats for the humane society.



Research another simple dog treat recipe that is different from Nicole's recipe. List the needed ingredients in the box below to complete the recipe.



List two foods you should not use in dog treats or otherwise feed to dogs. Explain why.



What motivates Nicole within her SAE?



What motivates you in life?



Which command does she practice with the dog in the video?



Draw five common obedience commands for dogs.



Name: _____



Nicole's career plans are _____. In the box below, list three animals she is likely to work with in her future career.



Using an emoji, rate your thoughts and feelings about having an SAE like Nicole's.

Part 2

Directions:

Students will utilize the website below to learn more about the purpose of a humane society and how they can get involved at their local shelters.



Nicole's SAE involved working at a humane society. Let us look at what a humane society is and how you can get involved at your local facility. Use the following website to help you with this portion of the activity:

<https://www.kyhumane.org/>.



Describe in your own words what a humane society is and what roles it serves in local communities.



What programs does the Kentucky Humane Society offer?



Humane societies and local animal shelters depend on donations and volunteers. List three ways you could help your local facility.



Name: _____

Aligned to the following standards: AS.03; FFA.PL-A; FFA.CS-M;
FFA.CS-N; AS.03; AGPC01.03 CCSS.ELA.RI.9-10.1 CCSS.ELA.RI.9-
10.2 CCSS.ELA.SL.9-10.1; MP1; MP4; MP7; CRP.02; CRP.04; CRP.05;
CRP.06; CRP.07; CRP.08; CRP.09; CRP.11

Selecting an Ideal Dog Food

Directions:

Review the provided handout "Supplemental Information: Basics of Animal Nutrition" along with the listed websites to help you complete the activities below.

Comparing and Evaluating Dog Foods

*Utilizing the two dog foods listed here, compare these two dog foods by answering the questions below. Use the links provided to access information about each of the foods.

Dog Food A: Hill's Science Diet Small Breed <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/brand/Hill%27s+Science+Diet?>

Dog Food B: Hill's Science Diet Large Breed <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/brand/Hill%27s+Science+Diet?>

Which dog food has a higher protein content?

Which health features do both dog foods provide?

Which dog food has a higher fiber content?

Which dog food has a higher fat content?

After analyzing these two dog foods, what are two conclusions you can make about why the nutritional content is different for these two dog foods?

Name: _____

Comparing and Evaluating Dog Foods

*Utilizing the two dog foods listed here, compare these two dog foods by answering the questions below. Use the links provided to access information about each of the foods.

Dog Food A: Diamond Naturals Skin-Coat-Formula All Life Stages

https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/diamond-naturals-skin-coat-formula-all-life-stages-dog-food-30-lb?cm_vc=-10005

Dog Food B: Merrick Grain-Free All Life Stages Digestion Support

https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/merrick-grain-free-real-chicken--sweet-potato-4-lb-bag?cm_vc=-10005

Which dog food has salmon and fish meal as its main two ingredients?

Which dog food has a higher caloric content?

Which dog food would be ideal for a dog that has digestive troubles?

What is the feeding recommendation for pregnant or lactating dogs for Dog Food A?

Based on the price of each of these dog foods, which would be ideal for a family that is on a limited budget but still wants to feed good-quality dog food? Explain your choice.

Name: _____

Which Dog Food Would You Recommend?

***Utilize the following website and your knowledge of feeding dogs to recommend at least two dog food options for each of the scenarios below:** <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/catalog/dog-food>.

Scenario A

Manuel lives in an apartment in town with his miniature schnauzer, Rosie. She is a four-year-old spayed female in great health. She weighs 14.4 lbs. and spends most of her days lounging around the house. Manuel works a lot and doesn't get to take Rosie to the park often, so she is limited in exercise. Manuel wants to feed Rosie a high-quality dog food and is not too concerned with the cost of the food as she does not eat a whole lot.

Recommendation 1:	Support of Food Choice:
Recommendation 2:	Support of Food Choice:

Scenario B

Baylee lives on a small hobby farm with his parents and two brothers. He is taking on the responsibility of their family's dog Okie. Okie is a 10-month-old three-fourths Australian shepherd and one-fourth blue heeler mix that is not yet neutered. Baylee keeps Okie in a kennel during the school day and lets him run and play during the evenings and on the weekends. Okie loves to play in the barn and around the livestock. Baylee and his family want to feed their dog good quality dog food for his age and breed. They do have to consider the price of the dog food as they have other animals to feed as well.

Recommendation 1:	Support of Food Choice:
Recommendation 2:	Support of Food Choice:

Scenario C

Sandy is concerned about her 13-year-old Labrador retriever Kami as she seems to be struggling to keep weight on. Kami is a spayed female that is in good health for her age. Sandy is looking for dog food that will help Kami maintain her body weight and enjoy the rest of her days. Kami enjoys a good walk with her mom but, for the most part, spends her time lounging around the house with her mom, who is retired. Sandy is looking for quality dog food for her older dog and is not concerned with the price of the food.

Recommendation 1:	Support of Food Choice:
Recommendation 2:	Support of Food Choice:

Name: _____

Analysis

1. Why do you think Tractor Supply offers so many brands and types of dog foods?
2. Do you think other stores offer as many options as possible? Explain.
3. How can we better educate pet owners about the importance of feeding quality foods that are meant for their specific animal?
4. What role do we as humans play in ensuring good nutrition for the animals in our lives?



Name: _____

Supplemental Information: Basics of Animal Nutrition



In today's society, one can't turn on the TV or read a newspaper without seeing or reading information about health issues. What is the major factor discussed in these issues? Nutrition. Along with nutrition, genetics and environment are all factors that influence your health. Just like in humans, animals in agriculture are influenced by these same factors. If animals don't have proper nutrition, their growth rate, reproduction rate, immunity and well-being are all affected. Just as proper nutrition is vital for your good health and proper function, it is just as vital for the health and function of agriculture animals.

Importance of Nutrition and Digestion

Nutrition is important for a variety of reasons. Animals need the proper nutrition for growth and maintenance and to provide energy for work and vital functions. Maintenance is the nutrition required for an animal to maintain its current weight. Energy is the ability of the body to perform functions. Proper nutrition is also needed to maintain body temperature, produce milk, reproduce and develop proper bone structures. Without proper nutrition, animals can develop health problems, which could result in treatment costs or even fatality. Good nutrition is essential for all the systems of an animal to function and work together properly.

Animals that do not receive the proper nutrition are more likely to develop health and reproductive problems and be less productive and marketable. Nutrition is important for having healthy animals, and in turn, healthy animals help ensure profitability in agricultural operations.

Producers must understand not only what nutrition an animal needs but also how to supply that needed nutrition. Producers must know what ration is appropriate for a specific animal and how to provide a balanced ration. A ration is the feed an animal receives over a 24-hour period. A variety of feedstuffs, or basic ingredients, are used in rations, and producers must choose those that best suit their needs. A ration with all the nutrients an animal needs is a balanced ration.

Digestion is the process of breaking down feeds into simple substances that can be absorbed into the bloodstream and used by the body's cells. It is important for producers to understand the digestive process because it helps in selecting the proper feed for the animal's type of digestive system. The digestive system is the system in which food is acted upon through physical (chewing) and chemical (stomach acids) means. It includes all parts from the mouth to the anus.

Understanding the digestive system can help the animal owner become more efficient in feeding, resulting in a more cost-effective animal enterprise. It also helps the owner to have a better understanding of animal health and problems that may occur. Understanding the chemical and physical changes that take place after an animal eats are important in noticing health problems related to digestion.

Name: _____

How Nutrients Are Used

Does a pregnant dog need the same nutrients as a dog that goes on an occasional walk with its owner? No. The nutrient requirements of animals differ because of factors such as age and pregnancy. Animals that need nutrients to sustain the body condition they are in (no weight loss or gain) need nutrients for maintenance. Animals that require maintenance levels of nutrients are not pregnant, lactating or producing products such as wool.

Young, growing animals require nutrients to meet the needs of the specific growth stages. Young animals need the proper nutrition for growth and development of bones, muscles and organs. Some agriculture animals, such as chickens, grow rapidly. As animals grow, their nutrient needs change, and as they mature, their diets become closer to those of adult animals. Older animals may have health problems related to aging, which could require different nutritional needs such as vitamin and mineral supplements.

Animals that are pregnant or lactating have specific and increased nutritional needs. Pregnant animals need nutrition not only for themselves but also for the developing babies. Some agriculture animals commonly give birth to only one offspring (cattle and horses) while others give birth to multiple offspring (pigs, chickens, sheep and goats). Animals that are lactating or nursing their young also need specific nutrients to provide nourishing milk to their offspring.

Animals that exert large quantities of energy, known as working animals, need additional nutrients. Working animals are used for some type of work such as pulling heavy loads. Additionally, horses that are used for competitive events require different rations than horses that are ridden only for pleasure.

Classes and Sources of Nutrients

What nutrients do animals need? There are six major classes of nutrients: water, protein, carbohydrates, fats, minerals and vitamins. Nutrients can be obtained from various sources. Common sources of nutrients for agriculture animals include roughages and concentrates. Roughages include feed that is high in fiber and low in energy, such as grasses, hays and silages. Concentrates include feed that is high in energy and low in fiber, such as grains.

Water

1. Plays a role in biochemical reactions, including respiration, digestion and assimilation
2. Transports nutrients
3. Transports wastes
4. Regulates body temperature
5. Gives the body its form



Protein

1. Develop and repair body organs and tissues like muscles, nerves, skin, hair, hooves and feathers
2. Used to produce milk, wool and eggs
3. Develop the fetus
4. Generate some enzymes and hormones
5. Form a part of DNA



Name: _____

Carbohydrates (Sugar, Starch and Fiber)

1. Provide energy that powers muscle movement required for exercise and essential functions, such as breathing, digestion and beating of the heart
2. Produce body heat
3. Stored as body fat



Minerals

1. Supply materials for building skeleton and teeth
2. Form a part of body regulators, such as enzymes and hormones



Fats

1. Function as a valuable energy source
2. Provide body heat
3. Carry some vitamins



Vitamins

1. Regulate the digestion, absorption and metabolism of nutrients
2. Regulate the formation of new cells
3. Regulate the development of vision, bones, hair, feathers, skin and muscles
4. Help protect against diseases
5. Develop and maintain the nervous system



Name: _____

KEY: Savory Treats

Aligned to the following standards: AS.03; FFA.PL-A; FFA.CS-M; FFA.CS-N; AS.03; AGPC01.03 CCSS.ELA.RI.9-10.1 CCSS.ELA.RI.9-10.2 CCSS.ELA.SL.9-10.1; MP1; MP4; MP7; CRP.02; CRP.04; CRP.05; CRP.06; CRP.07; CRP.08; CRP.09; CRP.11

Part 1

Directions:

Watch this video about a Humane Society SAE, available at <https://vimeo.com/315691987>, to complete the activities below.



Circle in red each of the ingredients that Nicole uses in her dog treats for the humane society.



Research another simple dog treat recipe that is different from Nicole's recipe. List the needed ingredients in the box below to complete the recipe.

Answers will vary but commonly used ingredients include pumpkin, salt, cinnamon, shredded cheese, ripe bananas and oats.



List two foods you should not use in dog treats or otherwise feed to dogs. Explain why.

raisins, walnuts, macadamia nuts, onions, garlic, grapes, mushrooms, chocolate, Xylitol (found in gum and candy), caffeine, alcohol



What motivates Nicole within her SAE?

Class discussion about dogs and cats that reminded her the humane society needs a lot of help.



What motivates you in life?



Answers will vary.



Which command does she practice with the dog in the video?

Shake, give me a paw



Draw five common obedience commands for dogs.

Drawings will vary but some common commands are sit, come, down, stay, leave it, wait, shake, high five, drop it and heel.



Name: _____



Nicole's career plans are _____. In the box below, list three animals she is likely to work with in her future career.

Exotic animal veterinarian

Example animals: birds, rodents, ferrets, reptiles, amphibians, sugar gliders, hedgehogs, potbellied pigs, spiders



Using an emoji, rate your thoughts and feelings about having an SAE like Nicole's.

Answers will vary.

Part 2

Directions:

Students will utilize the website below to learn more about the purpose of a humane society and how they can get involved at their local shelters.



Nicole's SAE involved working at a humane society. Let's look at what a humane society is and how you can get involved at your local facility. Use the following website to help you with this portion of the activity:

<https://www.kyhumane.org/>



Describe in your own words what a humane society is and what roles it serves in local communities.

Answers will vary.



What programs does the Kentucky Humane Society offer?

Adoption, SNIP Clinic, Behavior Training for Owned Dogs, Pet Help Line, Pet Resorts, Equine CARE



Humane societies and local animal shelters depend on donations and volunteers. List three ways you could help your local facility.



Foster animals



Make treats and toys



Volunteer to walk dogs; fundraise; have supply drives at school or through other groups like 4-H, Scouts, church, etc.

Name: _____

Aligned to the following standards: AS.03; FFA.PL-A; FFA.CS-M; FFA.CS-N; AS.03; AGPC01.03 CCSS.ELA.RI.9-10.1 CCSS.ELA.RI.9-10.2 CCSS.ELA.SL.9-10.1; MP1; MP4; MP7; CRP.02; CRP.04; CRP.05; CRP.06; CRP.07; CRP.08; CRP.09; CRP.11

Selecting an Ideal Dog Food

Directions:

Review the provided handout "Supplemental Information: Basics of Animal Nutrition" along with the listed websites to help you complete the activities below.

Comparing and Evaluating Dog Foods

*Utilizing the two dog foods listed here, compare these two dog foods by answering the questions below. Use the links provided to access information about each of the foods.

Dog Food A: Hill's Science Diet Small Breed <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/brand/Hill%27s+Science+Diet?>

Dog Food B: Hill's Science Diet Large Breed <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/brand/Hill%27s+Science+Diet?>

Which dog food has a higher protein content?

Dog Food B Large Breed

Which health features do both dog foods provide?

Muscle health

Which dog food has a higher fiber content?

Dog Food B Large Breed

Which dog food has a higher fat content?

Dog Food A Small Breed

After analyzing these two dog foods, what are two conclusions you can make about why the nutritional content is different for these two dog foods?

The nutritional needs of dogs vary based on their breed and size. Larger breeds need more protein and fiber in their diets while small breeds have a higher fat content needed in their food. The smaller breed food has more health preventative benefits than the larger breed food. Both feeds seem to be high quality and have lots of benefits for the dogs they are intended to be fed to.

Name: _____

Comparing and Evaluating Dog Foods

*Utilizing the two dog foods listed here, compare these two dog foods by answering the questions below. Use the links provided to access information about each of the foods.

Dog Food A: Diamond Naturals Skin-Coat-Formula All Life Stages

https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/diamond-naturals-skin-coat-formula-all-life-stages-dog-food-30-lb?cm_vc=-10005

Dog Food B: Merrick Grain-Free All Life Stages Digestion Support

https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/product/merrick-grain-free-real-chicken--sweet-potato-4-lb-bag?cm_vc=-10005

Which dog food has salmon and fish meal as its main two ingredients?

Dog Food A Diamond Naturals

Which dog food has a higher caloric content?

Dog Food A Diamond Naturals

Which dog food would be ideal for a dog that has digestive troubles?

Both have digestive supports; Diamond Naturals does have additional probiotics.

What is the feeding recommendation for pregnant or lactating dogs for Dog Food A?

Recommended it be fed free choice to the dog

Based on the price of each of these dog foods, which would be ideal for a family that is on a limited budget but still wants to feed good-quality dog food? Explain your choice.

The cost of Diamond Naturals is \$1.93/lb. while the Merrick is \$3.18/lb., so if a family is on a budget the Diamond Naturals would be more ideal. To be safe, it would be good to have a conversation with your veterinarian about food selection.

Name: _____

Which Dog Food Would You Recommend?

***Utilize the following website and your knowledge of feeding dogs to recommend at least two dog food options for each of the scenarios below: <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/catalog/dog-food>.**

Scenario A

Manuel lives in an apartment in town with his miniature schnauzer, Rosie. She is a four-year-old spayed female in great health. She weighs 14.4 lbs. and spends most of her days lounging around the house. Manuel works a lot and doesn't get to take Rosie to the park often, so she is limited in exercise. Manuel wants to feed Rosie a high-quality dog food and is not too concerned with the cost of the food as she does not eat a whole lot.

Recommendation 1: Answers will vary.

Support of Food Choice: Answers will vary.

Recommendation 2: Answers will vary.

Support of Food Choice: Answers will vary.

Scenario B

Baylee lives on a small hobby farm with his parents and two brothers. He is taking on the responsibility of their family's dog Okie. Okie is a 10-month-old three-fourths Australian shepherd and one-fourth blue heeler mix that is not yet neutered. Baylee keeps Okie in a kennel during the school day and lets him run and play during the evenings and on the weekends. Okie loves to play in the barn and around the livestock. Baylee and his family want to feed their dog good-quality dog food for his age and breed. They do have to consider the price of the dog food as they have other animals to feed as well.

Recommendation 1: Answers will vary.

Support of Food Choice: Answers will vary.

Recommendation 2: Answers will vary.

Support of Food Choice: Answers will vary.

Scenario C

Sandy is concerned about her 13-year-old Labrador retriever Kami as she seems to be struggling to keep weight on. Kami is a spayed female that is in good health for her age. Sandy is looking for dog food that will help Kami maintain her body weight and enjoy the rest of her days. Kami enjoys a good walk with her mom but, for the most part, spends her time lounging around the house with her mom, who is retired. Sandy is looking for quality dog food for her older dog and is not concerned with the price of the food.

Recommendation 1: Answers will vary,

Support of Food Choice: Answers will vary,

Recommendation #2: Answers will vary,

Support of Food Choice: Answers will vary,

****There could be numerous recommendations for these scenarios. Depending on the location of the student and their local Tractor Supply, this section would be ideal to have class discussions about the choices students make. The teacher would need to do some price checking and availability just prior to assigning this lesson.**

Name: _____

Analysis

1. Why do you think Tractor Supply offers so many brands and types of dog foods?

To offer their customers a wide variety of choices that meet the various needs of dogs and other pets. They try to provide customers affordable choices for those that need to budget but also provide high-quality brands for those who wish to feed their dogs select diets. They also have choices for dogs with food allergies, digestibility problems and other health needs.

2. Do you think other stores offer as many options as possible? Explain.

Pet food stores offer as many and possibly more. Some other farm stores may carry as many choices, but a local feed store would more than likely not carry as many brands or varieties of food choices.

3. How can we better educate pet owners about the importance of feeding quality foods that are meant for their specific animal?

Allow students to brainstorm and discuss this question. Then challenge them to act on their ideas and to help with this need.

