

**Animal-Related Experiences**  
**10 Screening Questions for Children, Adolescents and Adults**  
Adapted from the *Boat Inventory* by Barbara W. Boat, Ph.D.\*

1. Have you or your family ever had any pets? .....Y \_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_

How many?

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| a. Dog(s) _____   | f. Turtles, snakes, lizards, insects, etc. _____       |
| b. Cat(s) _____   | g. Rabbits, hamsters, mice, guinea pigs, gerbils _____ |
| c. Bird(s) _____  | h. Wild animals (describe) _____                       |
| d. Fish _____     | i. Other (describe) _____                              |
| e. Horse(s) _____ |  |

2. Do you have a pet or pets now? .....Y \_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_

How many?

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| a. Dog(s) _____   | f. Turtles, snakes, lizards, insects, etc. _____       |
| b. Cat(s) _____   | g. Rabbits, hamsters, mice, guinea pigs, gerbils _____ |
| c. Bird(s) _____  | h. Wild animals (describe) _____                       |
| d. Fish _____     | i. Other (describe) _____                              |
| e. Horse(s) _____ |  |

3. Did you ever have a favorite or special pet? .....Y \_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_

What kind?

\_\_\_\_\_

Why was that pet special?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Has a pet ever been a source of comfort or support to you - even if you did not own the pet (e.g. when you were sad or scared)? .....Y \_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_

How old were you?

- \_\_\_\_ a. Under age 6    \_\_\_\_ b. 6-12 years    \_\_\_\_ c. Teenager    \_\_\_\_ d. Adult

Describe the pet and what happened

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Has your pet ever been hurt?.....Y \_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_

What happened? (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ a. Was it accidental? (hit by car, attacked by another animal, fell, ate something, etc.)

\_\_\_\_ b. Was it deliberate? (kicked, punched, thrown, not fed, etc.)

6. Have you ever felt afraid for your pet or worried about bad things happening to your pet? .....Y \_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_  
(describe) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you worried now? ..... Y \_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_

7. Have you ever lost a pet you really cared about (e.g. was given away, ran away, died or was somehow killed)? .....Y \_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_

**What kind of pet?** \_\_\_\_\_ If your pet died, was the death:  
\_\_\_\_ a. Natural \_\_\_\_\_ b. Accidental \_\_\_\_\_ c. Deliberate  
\_\_\_\_ d. Cruel or violent (old age, illness, euthanized) (hit by car) (strangled, drowned) (e.g. pet was tortured)

**What happened?** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Was the death or loss used to punish you or make you do something? .....Y \_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_

How difficult was the loss for you?  
\_\_\_\_ a. Not difficult \_\_\_\_\_ b. Somewhat difficult \_\_\_\_\_ c. Very difficult

How much does it bother you now?  
\_\_\_\_ a. Not at all \_\_\_\_\_ b. Somewhat \_\_\_\_\_ c. A lot

How did people react/what did they tell you after you lost your pet?  
\_\_\_\_ a. Supportive \_\_\_\_\_ b. Said it was your fault \_\_\_\_\_ c. Punished you \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ d. Other \_\_\_\_\_

How old were you?  
\_\_\_\_ a. Under age 6 \_\_\_\_\_ b. 6-12 years \_\_\_\_\_ c. Teenager \_\_\_\_\_ d. Adult

8. Have you ever seen someone hurt an animal or pet? .....Y \_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_

**How many?**

a. Dog(s) \_\_\_\_\_ f. Turtles, snakes, lizards, insects, etc. \_\_\_\_\_  
b. Cat(s) \_\_\_\_\_ g. Rabbits, hamsters, mice, guinea pigs, gerbils \_\_\_\_\_  
c. Bird(s) \_\_\_\_\_ h. Wild animals (describe) \_\_\_\_\_  
d. Fish \_\_\_\_\_ i. Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_  
e. Horse(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**What did they do?**

\_\_\_\_ a. Drowned \_\_\_\_\_ g. Burned  
\_\_\_\_ b. Hit, beat, kicked \_\_\_\_\_ h. Starved or neglected  
\_\_\_\_ c. Stoned \_\_\_\_\_ i. Trapped  
\_\_\_\_ d. Shot (BB gun, bow & arrow) \_\_\_\_\_ j. Had sex with the animal  
\_\_\_\_ e. Strangled \_\_\_\_\_ k. Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ f. Stabbed \_\_\_\_\_

Was it \_\_\_\_ a. Accidental? \_\_\_\_ b. Deliberate? \_\_\_\_ c. Coerced?

How old were you? (mark all that apply)  
\_\_\_\_ a. Under age 6 \_\_\_\_\_ b. 6-12 years \_\_\_\_\_ c. Teenager \_\_\_\_\_ d. Adult

Were they hunting the animal for food or sport? .....Y \_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_

Did anyone know they did this? .....Y \_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_

What happened afterwards? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

