

Does keeping pets bring advantages or troubles to teenagers?

Nowadays, many families keep a pet though it may cause troubles. For some families, pets are the playmates, companions or even siblings of the children or teenagers, especially for the only child. On the other hand, some families are not willing to keep one as it costs much money and may increase their financial burden. In my opinion, keeping pets brings quite a lot of benefits to teenagers.



Firstly, in recent years, many teenagers have been treated as the prince and princess of their families and some don't even know how to manage themselves. If they want to keep a pet, they are then responsible to take care of it. The sense of responsibility and independence are therefore built up. Here is an example. My friend, Brian, was born in a rich family and he didn't know how to get dressed without the help of the maid at the age of ten! After he got a puppy, he had to clean its kennel, walk and feed the dog all on his own.

He has become reliable and independent since then.

The second reason why I believe having a pet is good for teenagers is that it is entertaining. In a famous movie, *The Snappy Dog*, the dog played with the teenagers when they were upset about their busy father. When the father saw them playing joyfully, he realized that the family would have been broken without the dog. They then learnt to love and be tolerant to one another. This is to say, pets can brighten our days and make us a harmonious family.

Furthermore, I would like to point out that teenagers who grow up with pets at home are more respectful towards living things. 'Abandoned pets' has always been a serious social problem. If teenagers grow up with a pet, it would be more likely for them to protect the animals and help alleviate the problem.

As a conclusion, pets benefit teenagers a lot. They lead young people to become responsible, independent and caring. Having a pet can also help teenagers develop their sympathy and empathy. Pets, as the companions, family members and friends of teens, brighten their adolescence and family life. Keep pets is surely good for teenagers.

