

Humane Society of Broward County & Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida

**HUMANE SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY  
“NO BONES ABOUT IT” PET CARE PATCH PROGRAM**

# Leader’s Guide

## Cadette/Senior Level Requirements



Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida  
4701 NW 33 Avenue  
Oakland Park, FL 33309  
(954) 739-7660

Humane Society of Broward County  
2070 Griffin Road  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312  
(954) 989-3977



# HUMANE SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY

## ***'No Bones About It'* Pet Care Patch Program Description**

The 'No Bones About It' Pet Care Patch Program consists of four levels: Daisy, Brownie, Junior, and Cadette/Senior. At each level, the girls do a variety of age-appropriate activities to teach them about being responsible pet people. All activities are done during troop meetings or at home. The last activity the troop will do is visit the Humane Society for a tour. To schedule a tour, the troop leader should call 954-266-6848. Tours are offered Monday through Friday. Please call at least one month in advance. Patches will be issued only after all activities and the tour are completed. The cost of the patches per girl is \$2. Cash or checks (made payable to the Humane Society of Broward County) are accepted.



**In order for the girls to earn the No Bones About It Patch, the following must occur:**

- ✓ The girls must complete all required activities before coming for the tour.
- ✓ The girls must come to the tour prepared to talk and answer questions about the activities they did.
- ✓ The troop leader should completely fill out the Patch Program Evaluation Form (the second to the last page of this guide) and turn it in at the beginning of the tour.

**LEADERS: Please review the following with your troop before introducing the activities:**

What is the Humane Society of Broward County?

The Humane Society is an animal shelter that cares for dogs, cats and rabbits that don't have homes. Most of the animals are brought to the Humane Society by their owners. Who can think of a reason why someone might have to give up their pet? Sadly, hundreds of pets are left at the Humane Society of Broward County by their owners each week. The Humane Society takes good care of all the dogs, cats and rabbits in their care and works very hard to find them new families to adopt them and give them a loving, life-long home.



## HUMANE SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY

### 'No Bones About It' Pet Care Patch

## *Cadette/Senior Girl Scout Levels*

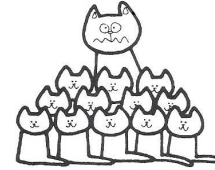
Cadette/Senior Girl Scouts must complete six of the nine activities listed below, as well as visit the Humane Society for a tour. Tours are offered Monday through Friday. Please call 954-266-6848 to schedule a tour (please call at least one month in advance).

1. Help a homeless pet find a home! As a troop, go on our website ([www.humanebroward.com](http://www.humanebroward.com)) and choose a dog, cat, or rabbit that is up for adoption. If possible, choose a pet that may have a harder time finding a home, such as one that is several years old or has all-black fur. Together, design a colorful, eye-catching flyer "advertising" the pet for adoption. Include important information about the pet, including where the people can call for information. The more attractive your flyer is, the more effective it will be! Make lots of copies of your flyer and pass them out in your neighborhood, at the store, at school, at your local pet supply store – get creative! You may help a homeless pet find a home!
2. The Humane Society of Broward County offers three animal behavior mini-seminars that are free and open to the public. They are approximately one hour in length and are usually held on Saturday mornings. They are called Bow Wow Basics, Meow Basics, and Bunny Basics. Have your troop attend one of these fascinating and informative talks. For more information or to find out the upcoming meeting dates, please call 954-266-6848.
3. Have a toy drive for the animals at the Humane Society! Why do you think the Humane Society gives toys to the dogs, cats and rabbits in their care? Toys help to keep the animals from getting bored while they wait for a new home. Toys brighten their day! But, the toys at the Humane Society wear out quickly and need to be replaced constantly. Why not encourage your friends and family to donate a new toy or two? The toys that work best are: Large rubber toys for dogs, ping pong balls for cats, and small plastic cat toys with a bell inside for rabbits. You could bring the donations when you come for your tour. Imagine how happy the animals will be!
4. There are too many homeless pets! As you read this, tens of thousands of dogs, cats and rabbits sit in shelters across America, hoping for someone to adopt them. There are already so many homeless pets...find out what you can do to stop more from being created. PAGE 4
5. The truth about dogs, cats and bunnies...test your knowledge about our furry friends! PAGE 5
6. Learn and talk about why pets lose their homes and what measures can we take to prevent our family from having to give up our pet. PAGE 6
7. Compare and contrast the differences between Broward Animal Care and Regulation and the Humane Society of Broward County. PAGE 7
8. Making the pur-r-r-r-r-fect match...It's not easy to find loving, lifelong homes for animals. Pretend you are a pet adoption counselor and match the right pet up with the right person. PAGE 8
9. Learn about the tragedy of puppy mills and what you can do to stop them! PAGES 9 & 10

# Too Many Pets!

America has a serious pet overpopulation problem. That means that there are far more pets than there are people to give them homes. Where did all these “extra” animals come from? They come from people who give up their pets and people who allow their pets to have litters of babies. People abandon SO MANY pets at shelters that sometimes shelters have no choice but to euthanize (painlessly put to death) the pets that nobody wants. To see just how serious the problem is, please complete the exercise below:

For each person born in America, 15 dogs and 45 cats are also born. In order for every one of these dogs and cats to have a home, each person would have to care for 15 dogs and 45 cats in their lifetime!



How many pets would YOUR family have to care for?

Write the number of people that live in your house: \_\_\_\_\_

Multiply the number of people in your house by the number of dogs they would have to care for:

$$\text{_____} \times 15 = \text{_____}$$

Now, multiply the number of people in your family by the number of cats they would have to care for:

$$\text{_____} \times 45 = \text{_____}$$

Add the answers from the dog and cat problems:

$$\text{_____} + \text{_____} = \boxed{\phantom{000}}$$

The people in your house would have to care for  $\boxed{\phantom{000}}$  dogs and cats in their lifetimes! You can see that this is not possible.

## So, what can you do to reduce the number of homeless animals?

- ♥ Spay or neuter your pets! Spaying (for females) and neutering (for males) are operations that a veterinarian can do so that a dog or a cat cannot have unwanted babies.
- ♥ Don't get a pet unless you are willing to keep and properly care for him for his entire life.
- ♥ Adopt an animal from a shelter! Save the life of a precious dog or cat by adopting from a shelter. There is no need to spend hundreds of dollars at a pet store or breeder when you can get an amazing, lovable pet at your local shelter. You'll be glad you did!



# The Truth About Dogs, Cats and Bunnies

Read each statement below and circle either True or False. Check your answers using the Answer Key on page 11. Good luck!

1. When a cat scratches his claws on the furniture, it is because he is trying to be a bad kitty. True or False
2. The best thing to do when you meet a dog is to stare him directly in the eyes. True or False
3. Cats and dogs can eat people food instead of dog and cat food. True or False
4. Dogs and cats do not need identification tags on their collars. They are smart and can always find their way home, like in the movies. True or False
5. Dogs prefer to live outdoors. True or False
6. Spaying or neutering your dog or cat will make your pet healthier, happier, and might help him live longer. True or False
7. It is okay to leave your dog in the car while you go shopping. True or False
8. When meeting a dog, always ask the owner's permission before you pet the dog. True or False
9. The Humane Society of Broward County receives an average of about 300 dogs and cats each week. True or False
10. When your pet is sleeping, eating, chewing on a bone, or in his crate, you should leave him alone. True or False
11. If you don't want your pet rabbit anymore, just let him go in the woods. True or False
12. Animals don't have feelings so if you give your pet away or abandon him at a shelter, it won't really affect him. True or False
13. Cats that live on the street have a lifespan of about 3-5 years, while cats kept indoors usually live about 11-14 years. True or False
14. You can give your pet people medicine like aspirin or Tylenol when they are sick. True or False
15. If you see someone mistreating an animal, just look away. The animal belongs to them so it's none of your business. True or False



# Prevent YOUR Pet From Becoming Homeless!

About 300 dogs, pups, cats, kittens, and rabbits are brought to the Humane Society of Broward County by their owners every week. Sadly, most pets lose their home not because of something they have done wrong, but rather because their family did not act responsibly or didn't try very hard to make the situation work.

Read the reasons people give up their pets and think of what the family could have done to prevent that situation from happening in the first place. Check your answers using the Answer Key on page 12.



| I'm giving up my pet because...                        | ...this problem could have been prevented by... |
|--|---|
| A. My pet had babies and I can't find homes for them.  |   |
| B. I can't afford my pet.                              |   |
| C. He got too big.                                     |   |
| D. She jumps up on people and goes potty in the house. |   |
| E. My brother is allergic to him.                      |   |
| F. We're moving.                                       |   |
| G. We don't have time for her.                         |   |
| H. We had a new baby.                                  |   |
| I. The landlord said we're not allowed to have pets.   |   |
| J. He's too active.                                    |   |

# What's The Difference?!?

There are two large animal shelters that serve the pets and people of Broward County: The Humane Society of Broward County and Broward Animal Care and Regulation. People often get the two confused since both offer some similar services. However, they are two completely separate agencies. Fill in the blank spaces below to compare and contrast the differences between the two agencies.

Hint: Contact The Humane Society of Broward County at [www.humanebroward.com](http://www.humanebroward.com) or 954-989-3977 and Broward County and Broward Animal Care and Regulation at <http://www.broward.org/animal/> or 954-359-1313.

## The Humane Society of Broward County

## Broward County Animal Care and Regulation

Receives about 20,000  
animals a year



Picks up stray dogs

Funds come from donations and  
fundraising events



Investigates animal cruelty

Has lots of awesome  
pets for adoption!



Offers a low-cost  
spay/neuter program

Is a private, non-profit  
organization



# The Purrrrr-fect Match

At the Humane Society of Broward County, we want to find permanent, loving homes for the animals in our care. Our Adoption Counselors try to match the right person or family up with the right pet for them.

Pretend you are an Adoption Counselor and read the descriptions below and determine what kind of pet may be best suited for the people and their lifestyle at this time. Write the letter of your choice in the space provided. There may be more than one correct answer for each. Check your answers using the Answer Key on page 13.

A. Puppy



B. Adult cat



C. Kitten



D. Adult dog



E. This may not be the right time to get a pet

1. \_\_\_\_\_ An elderly woman that lives alone.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ A married couple that is expecting a baby.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ A family with 3 kids under the age of 4.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ A family with a 7-year-old and a 10-year-old, and a stay-at-home mom.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ A busy college student that lives in an apartment.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ A man who lives alone and is out of the house 8 hours each day.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ A single woman who works from home.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ A family that is getting ready to move across the country.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ A family with six-year-old twins in which one parent works part-time.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ A loving family whose landlord says pets are not allowed.

## What Is A Puppy Mill?

Imagine a dog being forced to live in a small wire cage for most of her life. She never gets to run and play, or have a toy or a soft bed. Nobody ever pets her. She is exposed to extreme temperatures in the winter and summer. There is little hope that she will ever know a loving home. Instead, she is forced to have puppies, litter after litter, until she physically cannot have any more, and then she is euthanized (put to death).

And for what?



### **So pet stores can make money!**

Welcome to a puppy mill, a place that breeds dogs to supply pet stores and online dealers. The people who run puppy mills are primarily concerned with making money and show little concern for the health and well-being of the dogs they create. They often produce sick puppies as a result of inbreeding, disease, the breeding of dogs with genetic problems, a lack of veterinary care, and poor quality food and water. Also, the puppies produced are often taken away from their mothers far too soon, causing them to suffer from socialization and behavior problems later in their lives.

The Humane Society of the United States estimates that 90% of all pet stores get their pups from puppy mills. It is the cheapest way to get puppies to sell, since so little money is spent on the care of the puppies. Pet stores in turn sell the pups to the public for hundreds, sometimes thousands of dollars. Of course, pet stores don't admit that their puppies come from puppy mills because then you might not buy one! Instead they will say they get them from reputable breeders. However, reputable breeders would NEVER sell their puppies through a pet store. Reputable breeders insist on meeting and interviewing the potential new owner, seeing where the puppy would live, and making sure the owner is responsible and committed to giving the puppy the best possible life. Pet stores, on the other hand, will sell a puppy to any person that walks through their door with money.



**The suffering created by puppy mills is heartbreaking, but it is something we have the power to change!**

**What can YOU do to stop puppy mills?**



**Don't buy puppies from pet stores or online! This is the most important thing you can do to stop puppy mills!** If the pet stores aren't making money, the puppy mills will go out of business. If you want to give an adorable puppy a home, adopt one instead! There are thousands of loving, healthy pure-bred and mixed-breed dogs (and cats!) in our community that would LOVE to be your pet!



**Tell your friends and family what you have learned** about puppy mills. Most people would never knowingly support animal cruelty, but they don't know better. Unless you tell them about puppy mills, they might not know.



**Write letters to your elected officials to let them know that you want them to crack down on puppy mills.** Visit this page to get the names and addresses of your elected officials: [http://action.humanesociety.org/site/PageServer?pagename=electedOfficials\\_federal](http://action.humanesociety.org/site/PageServer?pagename=electedOfficials_federal)



**If you happen to be in a pet store and see sick puppies, report it to the authorities.**



**If your family insists on buying a pure-bred puppy, only go to a reputable breeder.** You should be able to go to the breeder's house and see the mother and father dogs, see proof of genetic testing and veterinary records. Most reputable breeders will not even breed their dogs until top-quality homes are lined up for the puppies. Also, don't be fooled into thinking a puppy is "better" or worth more financially because it has papers or is registered with one of the kennel clubs. Puppy mills and breeders have been known to file false paperwork to get these certifications, and kennel clubs are not able to verify every litter of puppies that is born.

### **Your assignment:**

- ♥ Educate one person on what you have just learned about puppy mills.
- ♥ Write to one of your elected officials and let them know that you are against puppy mills.

**To learn more about helping the dogs in puppy mills, visit [www.Stoppupmills.org](http://www.Stoppupmills.org) for more information.**



# The Truth About Dogs, Cats and Bunnies Answer Key

1. False – Cats do not scratch to be bad – it is normal cat behavior. Keep your furniture safe by teaching kitty to scratch on a scratching post. Need help with a scratching cat? Call 954-266-6851.
2. False – NEVER stare directly into a dog's eyes. In dog language, this is an aggressive thing to do.
3. False – Pet foods are made to meet the specific needs of pets. People food is not healthy for animals and it could make them sick and overweight.
4. False – Pets are not always able to find their way home. Identification tags could save your pet's life if he got lost! If your pet doesn't have tags, get him some today!
5. False – Dogs prefer to live indoors with their family! How would YOU like to live outdoors?
6. True – Pets that are spayed or neutered tend to be calmer pets who are better listeners, and are less likely to run away from home. They are also less likely to develop certain illnesses.
7. False – Your pet can quickly suffer brain damage or die from heatstroke if left in a hot car. NEVER leave an animal alone in a car!
8. True – This is a great way to stay safe around dogs!
9. True – The Humane Society of Broward County receives hundreds of pets each week. If you are looking to adopt a pet, the Humane Society is a great place to get one!
10. True – Just like people, dogs sometimes like to be left alone.
11. False – Pet rabbits starve quickly when abandoned in the woods. Better yet...find him a new loving home or call the Humane Society.
12. False – When a pet loses their home, they feel hurt, confused and scared.
13. True – Life on the street is hard for animals. Living indoors with people is the safest place for them!
14. False – Never give human medication to pets unless your veterinarian advises you to do so.
15. False – Always speak up if you see a pet being mistreated. The pet cannot call for help himself. You may be save the pet's life!

# Prevent YOUR Pet From Becoming Homeless! Answer Key

**I'm giving up my pet because...**

**...this problem could have been prevented by...**

A. My pet had babies and I can't find homes for them.

The family should have had their pet spayed so she wouldn't have had babies.

B. I can't afford my pet.

The family should have made sure they were ready for the financial commitment of having a pet before they got one. Also, many communities have low-cost services to help pet owners who have temporary financial problems. The family could have utilized these services to get them through their rough time.

C. He got too big.

The family should have done research to find out more about the dog they were getting before they got him.

D. She jumps up on people and goes potty in the house.

Jumping and house soiling are normal behaviors for a dog that has not yet been trained. All dogs need training! The family should have trained their dog. Many places including the Humane Society offer low-cost dog training.

E. My brother is allergic to him.

The family should not have gotten a pet if they knew someone was allergic. However, many people with allergies live comfortably with pets if they follow some simple tips (not letting the pet in the room where the allergic person sleeps, bathing the pet regularly, etc.) Also, a number of effective allergy medications exist to help allergic animal lovers keep their pets.

F. We're moving.

Just because a family moves doesn't mean their pet has to lose his home! They should seek advice from their local Humane Society on how to move with a pet. The Humane Society might also have a listing of pet-friendly apartments, if needed. If a family loves their pet and wants to keep him, they will take him with them when they move. It only takes a little extra planning!

G. We don't have time for her.

Having a pet is a huge time commitment. This is something that must be considered before a family gets a pet. Even when the family gets busy, they still must spend with and care for their pet. If a family is not able or willing to do so, they should not get a pet.

H. We had a new baby.

Lots of people successfully keep their pets when they have a new baby-it just takes a little knowledge and preparation. The people could have sought out advice on how acclimate their pet to the arrival of a new baby.

I. The landlord said we're not allowed to have pets.

If a family has a pet, they should not move to a place that doesn't allow pets. There are lots of apartments and homes for rent that allow pets. The family should have made more of an effort to find pet-friendly housing (including calling their local Humane Society!) Of course, if they live in a place that doesn't allow pets and they don't already have one, they shouldn't get one.

J. He's too active.

Some animals, especially those that are young, have lots of energy. They need exercise to burn their excess energy! It is true what dog trainers say-a tired pet is a well-behaved pet! A family should research the energy levels of different breeds before getting a pet. They should get an adult pet rather than a pup or a kitten. With any pet, a family should set aside time each day to exercise the pet.

# The Purrrr-fect Match Answer Key

| Possible correct answers   | Explanation  |
|--|--|
| 1. B – Adult cat   | A calm, adult cat (preferably over the age of 5) would make a wonderful companion for an elderly person. A pup, kitten or dog may be too much work for an elderly person.  |
| 2. E - This may not be the right time to get a pet                   | This couple is about to have a major change in their lives which will require all their time and attention. This may not be the best time to get a new pet.  |
| 3. D or E – Adult dog or This may not be the right time to get a pet | 3 kids under the age of 4 must take up all their parents' time and attention! They may not have the energy supervise puppy or a kitten. And, a small child could easily injure a pup or kitten. An adult cat would probably be frightened by the young kids. If the family insists on getting a pet, an adult dog that has lived with small kids might be an acceptable choice, or even better, the parents should wait until the kids are older before getting a pet. |
| 4. A,B,C or D – any of the pets                                      | This family has kids that are old enough to help take care of a pet. And, one of the adults is usually at home, so she could supervise and train the pet.  |
| 5. E - This may not be the right time to get a pet                   | College is a hectic time and students often move from place to place. A student may not be able to provide a stable home for a new pet.  |
| 6. B – Adult cat   | An adult cat (preferably over the age of 5) would be all right if left alone during the day, unlike a pup or kitten who might get into trouble, or an adult dog who might not be able to “hold it” 8 hours or more and may have a housetraining accident!  |
| 7. A,B,C or D – any of the pets                                      | A person who is home most of the time would probably be able to provide the needed supervision and training for a dog or cat of any age!   |
| 8. E - This may not be the right time to get a pet                   | A cross-country move is a very busy time and may not be the best time to bring a new pet into the household. Why not wait and adopt a pet in their new community?  |
| 9. A,B,C or D – any of the pets                                      | The kids in this family are old enough to start learning how to help take care of a pet, and at least one of the parents is home a lot of the time and can supervise and train the pet.  |
| 10. E - This may not be the right time to get a pet                  | If a person or family is not allowed to have pets where they live, then they should not get a pet! If they get one anyway and then get caught, the pet will become homeless.   |

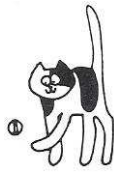


Note: The Humane Society of Broward County does not necessarily refuse the adoption of animals based on the explanations above. In an effort to make a lasting match that will benefit both the people and pet, we encourage people to consider their own circumstances as well as the needs of the pet while making the decision of whether or not to adopt a particular pet.



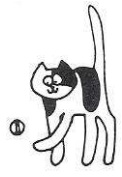
Humane Society  
of Broward County

## Wish List



Humane Society  
of Broward County

## Wish List



The Humane Society of Broward County is a non-profit organization that relies on donations to care for the thousands of animals we receive each year.

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♥ **Monetary Donations.**

♥ **Bath Towels & Wash Cloths.**

♥ **Dog & Cat Treats.**

♥ **Toys** - BIG rubber chew toys for dogs, ping pong balls for cats, and plastic cat toys with bells inside for bunnies.

♥ **Office Supplies** – copy paper, staples, scissors, craft supplies, etc.

♥ **Cleaning Supplies** - paper towels, dishwasher soap, laundry detergent, powdered bleach, disinfecting wipes.

♥ **Clinic Supplies** - rubbing alcohol, KMR - kitten milk replacer, Esbilac - puppy milk replacer, canned puppy & kitten food, hand sanitizer.

Nestle Purina generously donates food for the pets in our care, therefore, **we have all the dry food we need.**

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🐾 Thank you for your support! 🐾

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2070 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312  
954.989.3977 ♦ humanebroward.com

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# HUMANE SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY

## 'No Bones About It' Pet Care Patch Program Evaluation Form

### Cadette/Senior Level

Troop Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Troop Leader's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Girl Scout's Name (if done as an individual): \_\_\_\_\_

1. Which 6 activities did you / your troop complete?

1.

4.

2.

5.

3.

6.

2. What was your favorite activity and why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Name at least one thing you learned from the Patch Program that you didn't know before:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**This form must be completed and turned in at the beginning of the tour in order for the troop to receive their patches. Thanks!**

Order Your 'NO BONES ABOUT IT' Patches Today!  
(for out-of-town troops)



Troop Level and Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Troop Leader's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Girls in Troop: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Include \$2.00 per girl)

**Please add \$3 to the total for shipping!**

Mail patches to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to:

Humane Society of Broward County  
c/o Education Department  
2070 Griffin Road  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312

***Your evaluation form must be included with your order***