



# PAWS UP™

## for Safety

## Fun Kids' Project: First Aid Kit for Pets

Being prepared in an emergency is especially important for pets since they are dependent on us for care. Here's a fun yet practical project for kids to learn about pet safety and emergency preparedness.

### Supplies for Your Pet's First Aid Kit:

#### 1. Selecting a container

A waterproof container is good idea, but not completely necessary. Airtight Ziploc bags can help provide the essentials with the waterproofing they'll need. Remember, you'll want a container that is easily portable and will not become cumbersome. Assemble the list of items below first to determine the size of the container.

#### 2. First Aid Kit basics

The basic supplies for a first aid kit are scissors, tweezers, cotton balls/swabs, 2 rolls of gauze (one can be used to tie a muzzle in a pinch), flexible bandage tape, antiseptic spray or wipes, antibiotic ointment (Neosporin), rubbing alcohol, saline solution and hydrogen peroxide. These will provide you with first aid and wound dressing essentials.

#### 3. Other items

Flashlight and extra batteries, bottled water, light weight blanket, extra leash and collar, muzzle (remember, the gauze can also act as a muzzle), latex gloves and paint stir sticks. Paint stir sticks make great splints. They're generally available free from the any of the big box retailer paint departments.

#### 4. Pet medical records

Remember to include your pet's medical records. These are extremely important, especially during travel. You will want to ensure the records are stored in a waterproof bag.

#### 5. Decorate the First Aid Kit container

This is a very fun and creative aspect of the project. Allow the kids to use their imagination to personalize the container and make it easily recognizable for quick access.

Finally, encourage a discussion about safety and emergency preparedness for the entire family, including pets. Yes, this is a serious topic, but asking the kids to create your pet's first aid kit will help them to enjoy the process and remember what they've learned!

