Barbie Pet Rescue

Publisher
Mattel

Software Description
Children can help Barbie and Stacie, who work at the Pet Rescue Center, to rescue and care for dogs, cats, hamsters, turtles, parrots, and rabbits. The Pet Rescue Center is equipped with a checkup room, two playrooms, and an office. Rescue calls come in via the telephone or E-mail. Animals need to be rescued at Green Arbor Park, Hideaway Hollow Garden, and Whisper Grove Farm. If the child accepts the mission, Barbie rushes to the scene on her scooter. Children need to help Barbie find the animal and then click on objects that may help Barbie coax the animal to her. A Paw and Purr Award is given upon the successful completion of a rescue. Once back at the Pet Rescue Center, children can bathe animals, give them a checkup, pet them, toss treats, play keep away, make hamster trails, and have a turtle race.

System Requirements
Window

- Windows 95/98
- Pentium 166 MHz or better
- 32MB RAM
- 95 MB free hard drive space
- 8X or better CD-ROM drive
- 2 MB PCI-based video card Windows compliant sound device
- Mouse

Optional

- Speakers
- Headphones
- Touch screen
- Printer

Introductory Activity
Introducing the topic of pet rescue may follow naturally after studying pets in general. Perhaps some children have experience a pet becoming lost or trapped in a tree or under a porch. A good way of introducing this topic could be having a humane officer or animal control official visit the class and talk about some of the rescue work she does. When talking about pet rescue, it is important to talk about preventative measures to avoid the need for being rescued.

Child Outcomes and Standards Addressed
- Sort and classify animals according to various attributes. **M-**Patterns, Functions, and Algebra
- Identify what pets need to survive. **S-**Life Science; Science as Inquiry

- Weigh and measure animals and pet food. **M-**Measurement
- Participate in Treat Toss. **S-**Physical Science
- Navigate through mazes and create mazes. **M-**Geometry and Spatial Sense **SS-**People, Places, and Environments; Science, Technology, and Society **S-**Science and Technology
- Make and follow maps. **M-**Geometry and Spatial Sense **SS-**People, Places, and Environments
- Identify roles people have in animal care and rescue. **SS-**People, Places, and Environments; Production, Distribution, and Consumption

Materials

- *Barbie Pet Rescue*
- Stuffed animals to be rescued
- Collars, leashes, and containers to hold small animals
- First aid supplies (bandages, pads, tape)
- Stethoscope, play thermometer
- Blocks for mazes
- Valiant Roamer
- Ingredients for People Chow

Computer Activity

Let children explore the playrooms and checkup room in the software. Pairs can work on rescue missions. Be sure to enter both children's names on Barbie's computer so the awards will have the children's names. Print the awards if the children wish to take them home. Awards can also be posted in the dramatic play area.

Related Activities

Math

- Count and sort the animals that have been rescued. As part of an exam, a baby scale or classroom scale could be used to weigh the animals. Heights and lengths can be measured and compared. Comparisons can be made of the lightest animals and the heaviest animals, as well as the shortest, tallest, and longest.
- Create and repeat patterns with the animals.
- Match the animals with their beds at the Pet Rescue Center.
- Collect pet food for a local animal shelter. Weigh the poundage of the food collected.

Science

- Recreate the Treat Toss game. Use a container to be the "mouth." Have the children decorate the container to look like a dog. Children have to examine their trajectory to make the mouth.
- Care for any classroom pets. Perhaps the local veterinarian would make a classroom visit to discuss the needs of the classroom pet and conduct an exam.
- Observe the classroom pets.
- Make People Chow. Watch the transformation of the melting of chips, peanut butter, and butter. 12 oz chocolate chips (2 c.)

1 cup peanut butter
1/2 cup butter
12 oz box Crispix or Chex Rice or Corn cereal
2-3 cups confectioner's sugar

Melt in large pan chocolate chips, peanut butter and butter. Remove from heat and stir in carefully, Crispix cereal. Put confectioner's sugar in large paper grocery bag and pour chocolate mixture in. Shake bag until all chocolate pieces are coated with sugar. Pour out to cool on a cookie sheet. Makes into a delicious snack in just 10 to 15 minutes. Enjoy!

Social Studies

1. Design a Pet Rescue Center in the Dramatic Play area. Equip it with phone, computer, exam room, and playrooms. Children can go out on rescue missions.
2. Encourage children to draw maps to show where they found the animals that needed to be rescued.
3. Make mazes for the Valiant Turtle. Have children work on their mapping skills to make the turtle negotiate the maze.
4. Have an animal control officer or a person from the local shelter visit the classroom.
5. Invite a wildlife rehabilitator to visit the class.

Family Activities

- Invite families to bring in well-socialized pets for a visit.
- Make pet ID tags with Print and Shrink oven-craft bakeware.

Related Software

- *Adiboo's Discover Animals, Nature, and Planets*
- *Amazing Animals*
- *Fisher-Price Rescue Heroes Hurricane Havoc*
- *Time to Play Pet Shop*

Related Internet Sites

The ASPCA's Animaland—http://www.animaland.org
Kids in Nature's Defense—http://www.kindnews.org/
Kids' Planet—http://www.kidsplanet.org/
The First Dogs Game—http://www.discovery.com/stories/history/firstdog/game.html

Children's Literature

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