**High Plains Technology Center**

**Health Careers**

**Learning Activity Packet (LAP) for Veterinary Assistants**

**Related unit of instruction:**

Large and Small Animal Care

**Approximate Completion time:**

15 hours

**Rationale for the Lap:**

This LAP is designed to prepare the student to properly care for animals in a veterinary clinic.

**Criteria for successful completion:**

By the end of this LAP the student will

1. Read and turn in work sheets for Chapters 6, 8 and 12 in Sirois’ *Veterinary Assisting Textbook*, Workbook and text, Elsevier, 2013.
2. Pass the tests for the chapters

**Learning Objective:**

Animal Behavior and Restraint Chapter 6

1. Describe the processes by which behaviors develop.
2. Differentiate between positive and negative reinforcement and punishment.
3. List and describe types of aggressive behavior that may be seen in dogs and cats.
4. Describe the role of veterinary professionals in preventing behavior problems.
5. List the steps in house training a puppy.
6. Describe proper litter box care.
7. List the different options cats look for in scratching posts.
8. Describe the role of veterinary professionals in managing behavior problems.
9. List and give examples of various behavior modification techniques.
10. Describe the procedure for referring clients to professionals for resolution of behavior problems.
11. Describe the psychological principles underlying physical restraint techniques.
12. Explain and implement the safety precautions taken before and during physical restraint.
13. Restrain dogs and cats for routine procedures such as physical exams, nursing care and sample collection.
14. Give examples of behavior responses of animals to physical restraint.
15. Correctly identify and use restraint equipment.

Animal Care and Nursing Chapter 8

1. Describe techniques used in the general nursing care of dogs and cats.
2. Discuss techniques used in the recording of patient care.
3. Describe procedures used in grooming and skin, nail and ear care.
4. List common routes of administration of medication and describe procedures used for the administration of medications.
5. List and describe methods of parenteral administration.
6. List and describe methods of intravenous catheterization.
7. Explain the principles of first aid treatment of wounds.
8. Explain the principles of wound closure.
9. Give examples of the types and application of bandages.

Avian and Exotic Animal Care and Nursing Chapter 12

1. State the general characteristics of mice, rats, hamsters, gerbils, guinea pigs, chinchillas, rabbits and ferrets.
2. Discuss husbandry and principles of sanitation for small mammals.
3. Describe techniques for general nursing care of rodents, rabbits and ferrets.
4. Describe techniques used for diagnosing and treating disease in small mammals.
5. Describe the unique features of the anatomy of birds and basic biology of common reptile species.
6. Discuss the basic behavior of birds, reptiles and amphibians.
7. Discuss the basics of client education, husbandry and nutrition for avian, reptile and amphibian species.
8. Describe how to obtain a complete and thorough history of avian, reptile and amphibian patient.
9. Explain the different capture and restraint techniques used for birds, reptiles and amphibians.
10. Identify methods of sample collection for laboratory analysis.
11. Describe how to obtain quality diagnostic images of avian reptile and amphibian patients.
12. Discuss nursing care and supportive therapy techniques for avian, reptile and amphibian patients.
13. Identify and discuss some common diseases of avian, reptile and amphibian patients in the veterinary clinic.