Introduction to Veterinary Science

Introduction to Veterinary Science is a one-credit course designed to provide students with an introduction to the veterinary science profession. Topics include career opportunities, safety, humane treatment, laws and regulations, anatomy and physiology, animal health, and veterinary services.

Content standards for this course are not intended to serve as the entire curriculum. Teachers are encouraged to expand the curriculum beyond the limits of these content standards to accommodate specific community interests and utilize local resources. This course encourages critical thinking, use of the scientific method, integration of technology, development of student leadership skills, and application of knowledge and skills related to practical questions and problems. Safety concepts are integrated into instruction to the maximum extent possible.

Career and technical student organizations are integral, cocurricular components of each career and technical education course. These organizations serve as a means to enhance classroom instruction while helping students develop leadership abilities, expand workplace-readiness skills, and broaden opportunities for personal and professional growth.

Career Opportunities

Students will:

1. Compare job characteristics of various careers in veterinary science.

Safety

2. Identify safety precautions for veterinary science personnel.

Humane Treatment

3. Describe responsibilities of animal control and humane societies.
   - Describing responsible ownership of animals

4. Describe humane treatment of animals.

5. Describe effects of captivity on exotic animals.

Laws and Regulations

6. Identify laws and regulations involving animals.
   - Examples: leash laws, noise control, mandatory euthanasia
Anatomy and Physiology

7. Describe various body systems of animals, including skeletal, muscular, circulatory, respiratory, nervous, urinary, endocrine, and digestive.

Animal Health

8. Identify methods of disease prevention in animals.
   Examples: worming, vaccination
   - Analyzing symptoms of animal diseases for diagnostic purposes
   - Selecting drugs to treat animals
     Examples: antibiotics, wormers
   - Describing environmental factors affecting animals

9. Demonstrate procedures for administering vaccinations, including subcutaneous and intramuscular.

10. Identify proper hygiene for animals.

11. Describe normal and abnormal animal behaviors.
    Examples: normal—signs of contentment, playfulness
             abnormal—aggression, loss of appetite

Veterinary Services

12. Differentiate among veterinary services for various animals.