



The Scoop

...dishing out all the latest & greatest

Whiteoakstables.net —A Winning Website for Equine Enthusiasts

Whiteoakstables.net is a realistic equine game where players can buy, sell, train, show, race and breed their very own horses. The game is geared towards children, but appeals to people of all ages. Features include: chat rooms (monitored for safety), games & prizes, art, photo & writing contests, online parties, member run newspapers, message boards, live races & educational information.

Founded in 1996 by a thirteen-year-old horse lover, whiteoakstables.net quickly gained popularity and was recently chosen as the #2 most popular online game by Mizz Magazine.

The game helps children learn responsibility towards animals, the importance of good sportsmanship, as well as money and time management skills. While children are enjoying the game, parents can rest assured that their online experience is profanity free, educational, and the site provides a kid-friendly environment.

What Pets Owners Need to Know About Cicadas

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) cautions pet owners about potential digestion problems for pets who eat too many cicadas, which will be infesting the atmosphere along the Eastern United States this spring and early summer.

The large-scale emergence is expected to start in early May and could last a month. The HSUS says the large, slow moving cicadas are a tasty treat to dogs, cats and other predators. While the insects can provide protein, the exoskeletons of mature cicadas are indigestible. Pets who gorge on cicadas may find themselves vomiting or constipated.

However, the bugs are generally harmless to animals. They do not carry toxins, nor do they bite or sting. If a pet catches a few of these insects, it is usually not cause for alarm. But an overindulgent pet who eats many cicadas and has more than one or two episodes of vomiting, or appears to be in pain, may need to see a veterinarian.

The Petapotty - For Dogs Who Don't Like To Go Too Far From Home

Congrats. You've done such a great job of making your French bulldog feel at home that now she wants to do all her business in it. Not exactly what you were hoping for with those training classes.

Apartment-dwelling dog owners can now go a step beyond the wee-wee pad. Petapotty is designed for pets who don't like to go (pun intended) too far from home. An indoor patch of green, it contains real grass and its own plumbing system (a concealed, removable water pan that traps undesirable, um, liquids).

The bad news: You have to water, scoop, and mow (scissors will do). The good news: You don't have to leave your living room. The grass provided works in all climates and the unit comes with or without wheels (for easy mobility when guests arrive). Little Sheila has her very own lawn, discreetly hidden in the corner of your studio. Your friends will just think Petapotty is part of the décor. After all, it's nobody's business where your pooch does hers. Available online at petapotty.com

Responsible Animal Care Essay Contest Winners

The first round winner of the recent "Responsible Animal Care Essay Contest" recently held at Brent Elementary School in Washington, DC was 4th grader Taven Hernandez. Second prize went to 4th grader, Tyler Stephens and third prize went to 4th grader, Ariana Malin. Organized by teacher Rosalinda Sultis, sponsors included the Best Pet, American Humane Film and Media Unit, Capital FM Veterinary Clinic, Takoma Park Animal Clinic, Union Veterinary Clinic, Dogville's Chateau Animal, Dogville's Petz (Pennsylvania Avenue), The Petpalsiders, PetsterVet.com, The Dogpioneers, Thea's, Whimsy Vet, The Zooling, and pet photographer, Sue Shuman.

The following is Taven Hernandez's winning essay:

Animals have feelings just as you. Animals love like they feel the sun, and I can see like they feel the air. They want comfortable places to be at. They want you when you are away. You should give them plenty of playtime with you and other households so they don't feel bored. You should give them clean, fresh water, feed them before you go down to bed, teach them rules with patience and kindness so they won't be hurting people.

I think that animals are considered our best friends because they are always there for you and they make you feel better when you are feeling sad or lonely. Having an animal is a big responsibility because you have to clean up after him/her. You should respect the wild animals because if you don't respect them you are hurting them. Animals are also good companions because you can talk to them about things and they will listen to you.

You should rescue the rain forest because a lot of animals live there. The rain forest is the home of a lot of wild animals. The rain forest gets destroyed by humans because people cut down trees to make things like houses, wood, paper, things used for cars, and all kinds of stuff, which

are homes to all kinds of animals. You should save the rain forest from destruction because it can have a lot of animals. You also shouldn't pollute the rain forest because a lot of animals can die, and I'm sure that the animals don't want a place that is polluted and dirty to live in.

You shouldn't keep animals in cages because they don't belong in

cages; they belong in the wild with their family and friends. Sometimes it is hard to get animals away from their protective families and friends, so sometimes people kill the older ones and take away their babies. You should take good care of your pets because they have feelings just like us and they deserve to be treated like part of your family.

whiteoakstables.net

REALISTIC EQUINE GAME

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- Kid-friendly, parent approved
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