



What happens to my dog at the vets?

Dear Caregiver,

At Vetsure, our aim is to assist as many children and their families as possible to understand their pets, regardless of how they learn and interact with the world.

The world can be a difficult place to navigate for children with neurodiversity, which is why we have created this social story.




Social stories are commonly used to provide clear and concise information.

Social stories should be used at a pace that suits the child using them, and as a fun way to support them through these tricky topics.

The picture boxes are used to provide a visual explanation, and they use colours and consistent imagery to help with emotional understanding.

On the next page we have included some chatter cards. These cards can be cut out and used to assist with communication about your vet visit.

We hope this social story about visiting the vets provides help and support during your trip to the vets.

<b>Social Story Key</b>	
Good	
Happy	
Angry	
Sad	
Worried	

# Chatter Cards



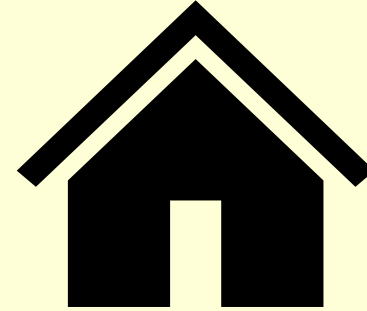
Vets



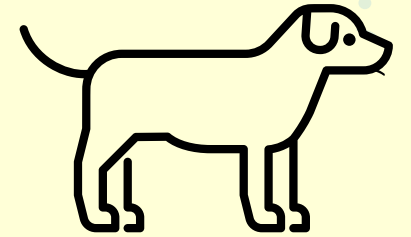
Vet nurses



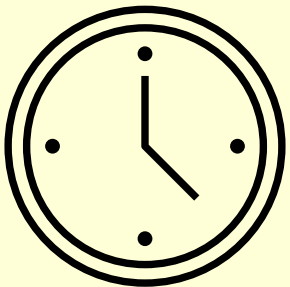
Receptionists



Vet practice



Sick or hurt dog



Waiting



Happy



Angry / Cross



Sad



Worried

# Who might I see at the vets?

## Vets

Vets are like doctors for pets.

They try their best to help sick or hurt pets feel better.

A vet might be a man or a woman.



## Vet Nurses

Vet nurses are like nurses for pets.

They help the vets try to make sick or hurt pets feel better.

A vet nurse might be a man or a woman.



## Receptionists

Receptionists help make sure the vets and the vet nurses know who is waiting.

They answer the phones too.

A receptionist might be a man or a woman.



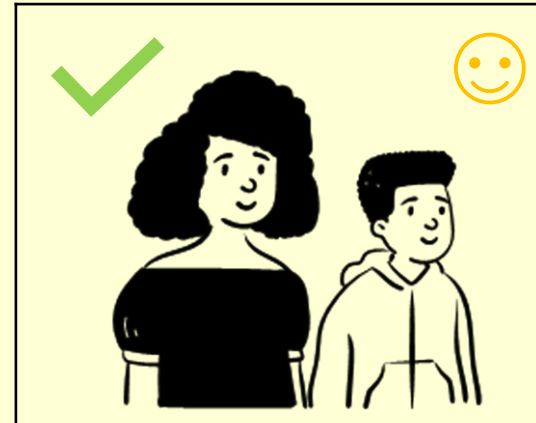
# What happens when we arrive to see the vet?



When my dog is ill or hurt, they may need to see the vet.



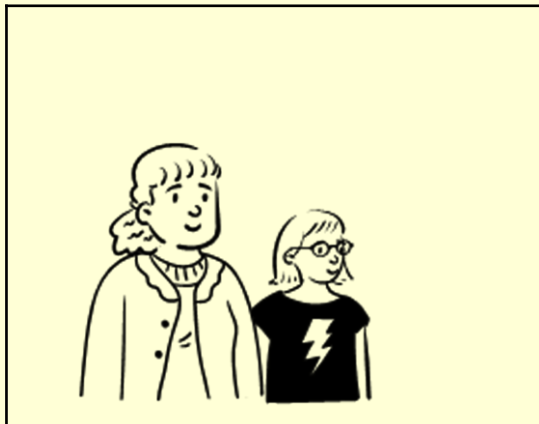
I might be worried about taking my dog to see the vet.



My grown-up will come with me so I feel safe.



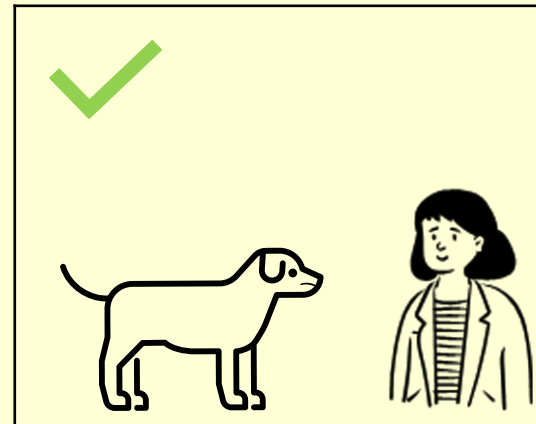
I will see the vet who is kind to people and pets.



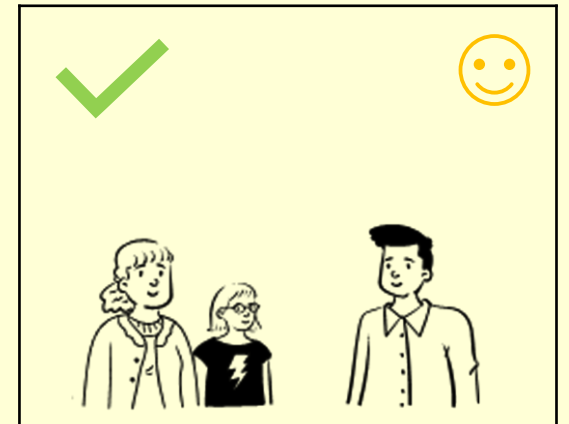
When we arrive, we might not see the vet right away.



I may be confused that we are not seeing the vet right away.

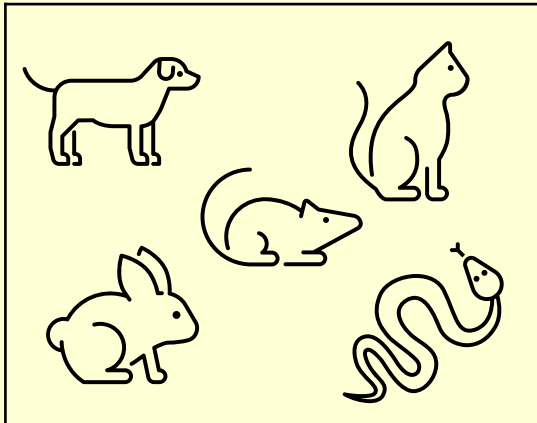


The vet might already be looking after another sick or hurt pet.

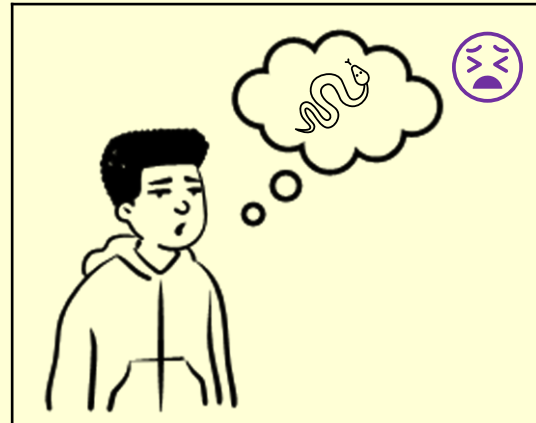


We will speak to the receptionist who will tell the vet we are here.

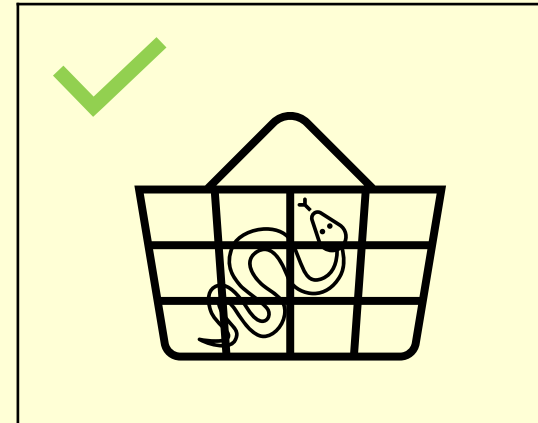
# What happens when we are waiting for the vet?



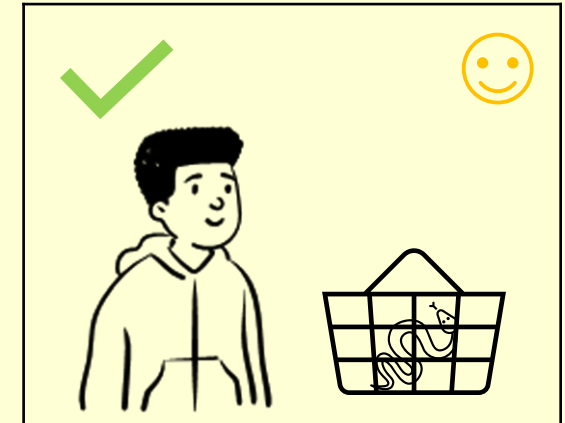
There may be different kinds of pets who are visiting the vet.



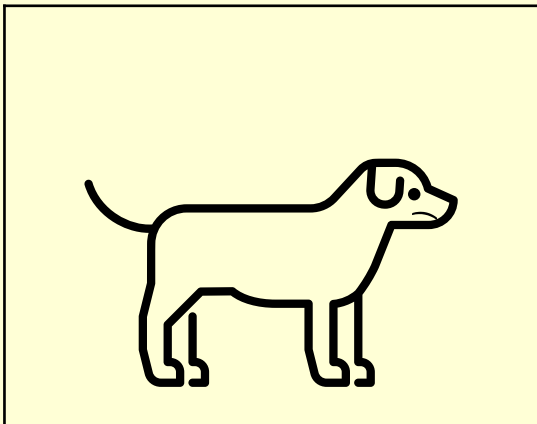
I might be worried about the different pets.



The pets will be kept in cages, or on leads, and cannot get away.



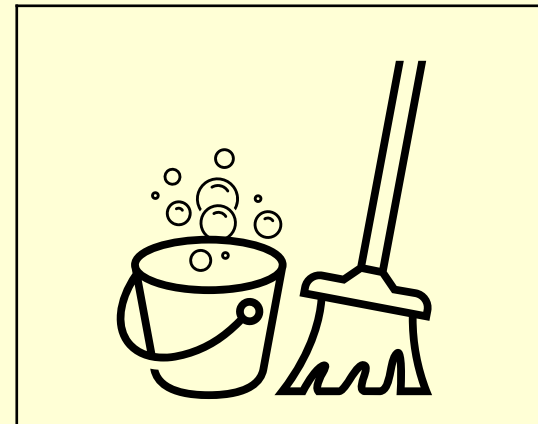
I am safe at the vets because the pets are kept away.



Sometimes dogs get sick.



I might be worried that the vet practice is dirty.

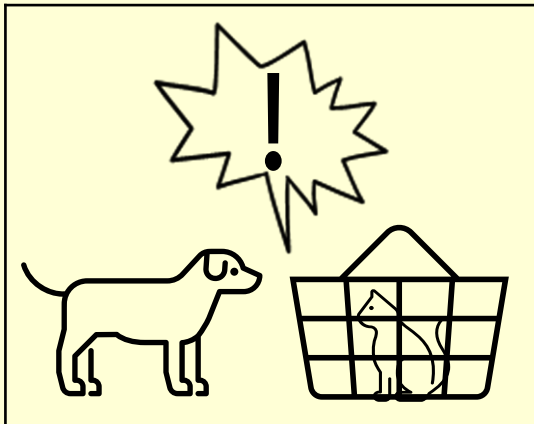


The vet practice is clean to keep pets healthy.

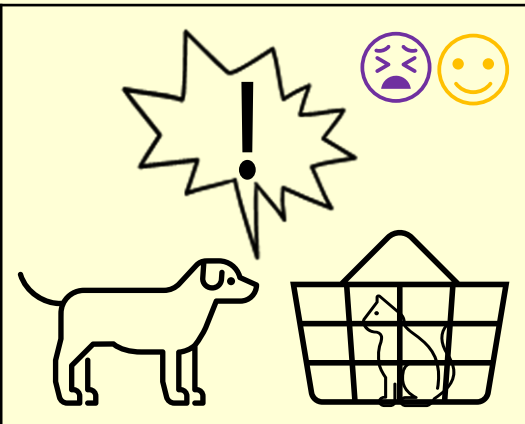


I won't get sick at the vet practice because it is clean.

# What happens when we are waiting for the vet?



Dogs sometimes bark loudly, and cats meow and hiss.



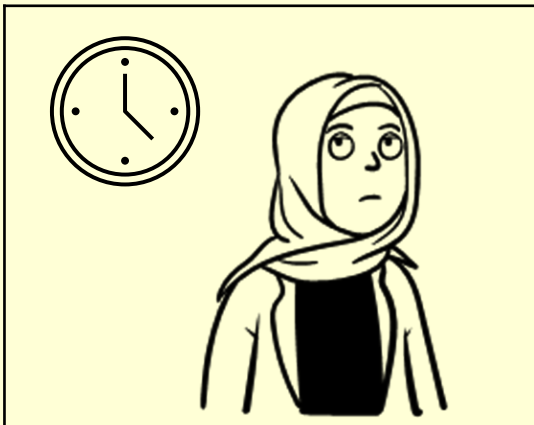
This is because they are worried, or happy, about visiting the vet.



I might think it is too loud.



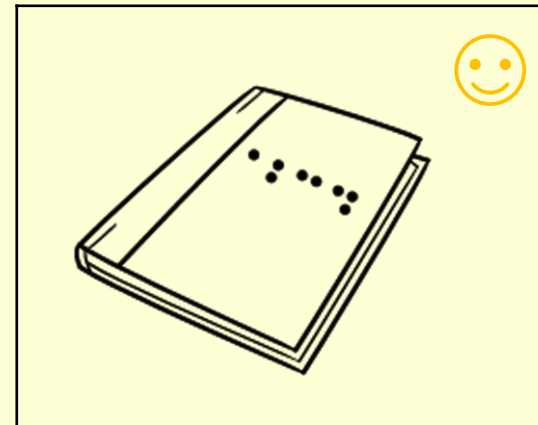
I can wear my ear defenders, so it isn't too noisy.



I might need to wait to see the vet, and I might be bored.



I can take something with me from home.



If I have something to do, I won't be bored.

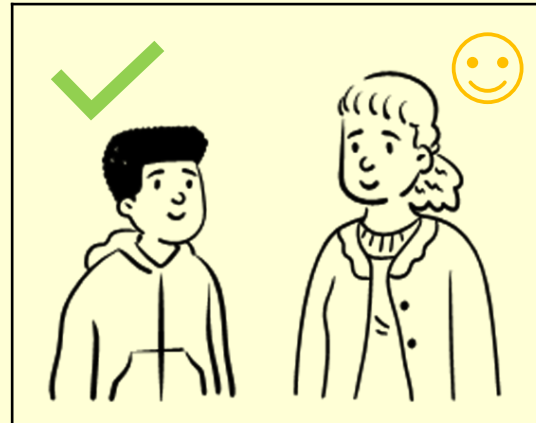


This will help me not be bored.

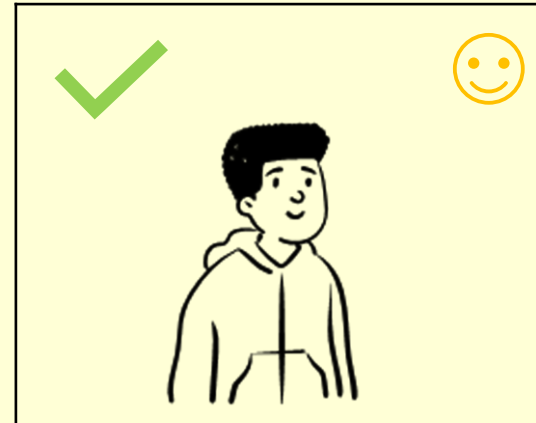
# Can I stroke the pets at the vet practice?



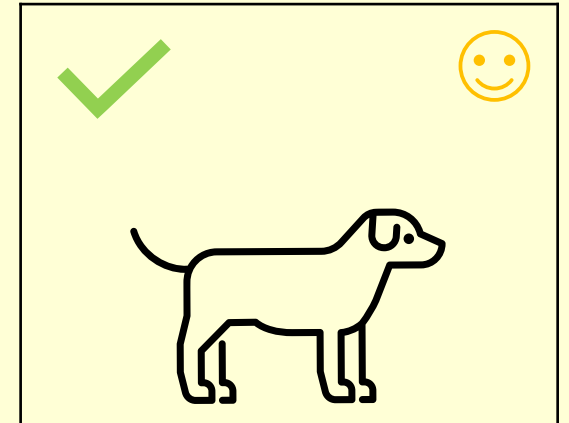
I may want to stroke the other dogs while I am waiting.



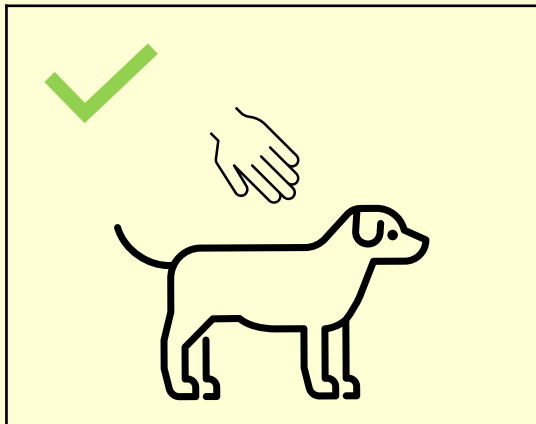
I need to ask a grown-up before stroking their dog.



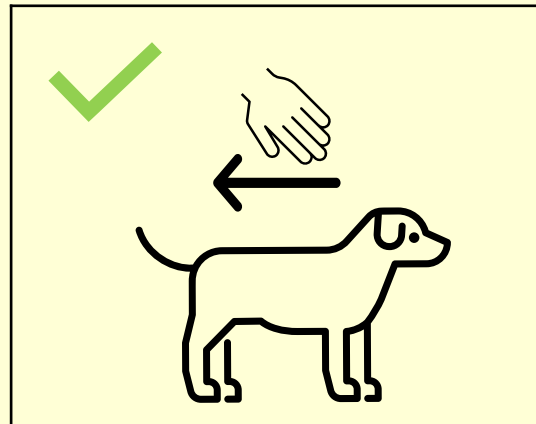
This will keep me safe.



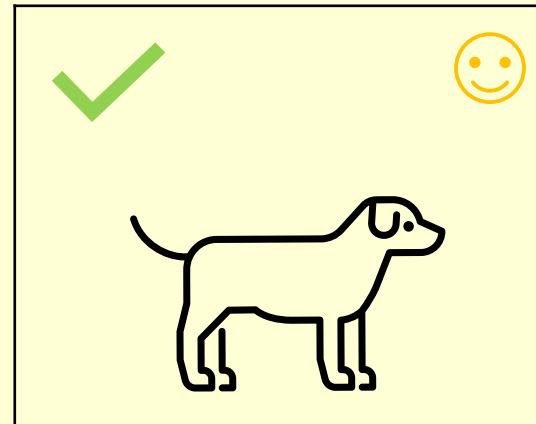
Their dog will be happy that I asked a grown-up first.



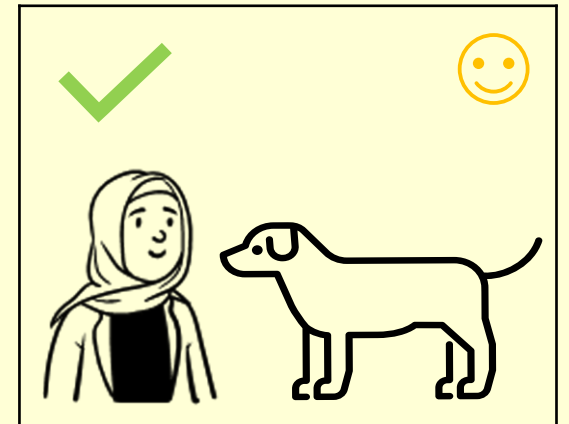
When I stroke a dog, I must use gentle hands.



I can stroke the dog's back softly towards its tail.



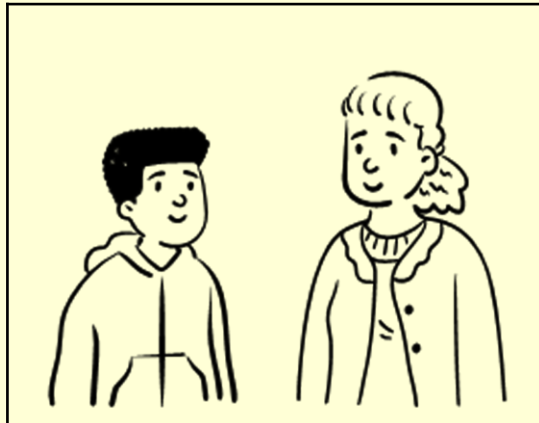
The dog will be happy if I am gentle.



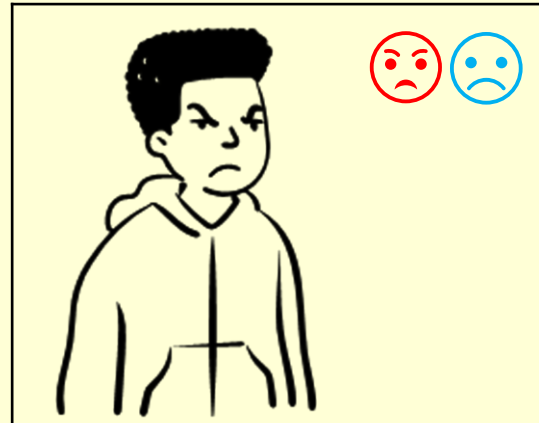
It is good to be kind to animals.



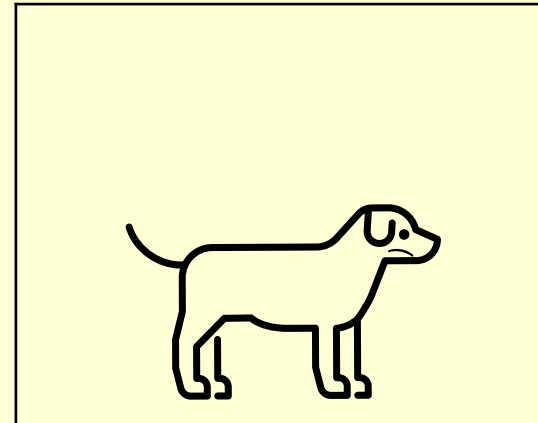
# Can I stroke the pets at the vet practice?



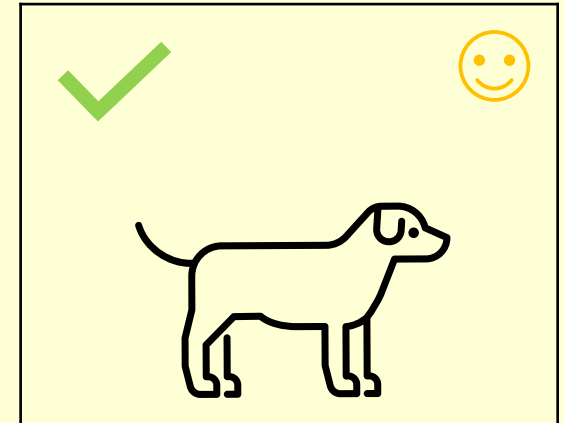
Sometimes a grown-up may say I can't stroke their dog.



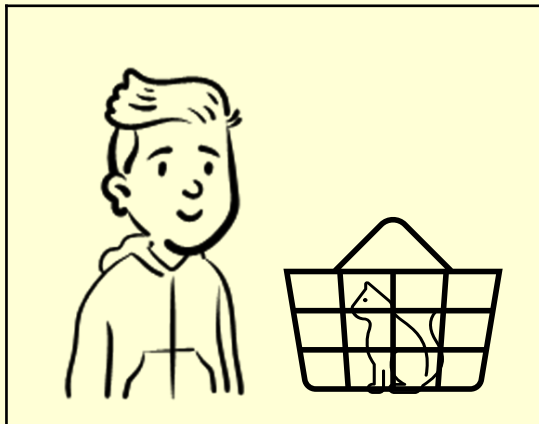
This may make me angry or upset.



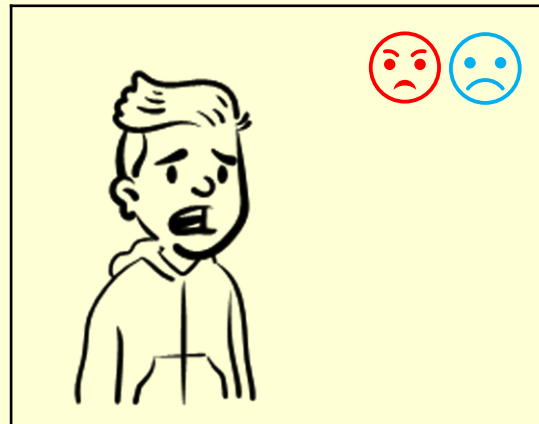
The dog might be sick or hurt and doesn't want to be stroked.



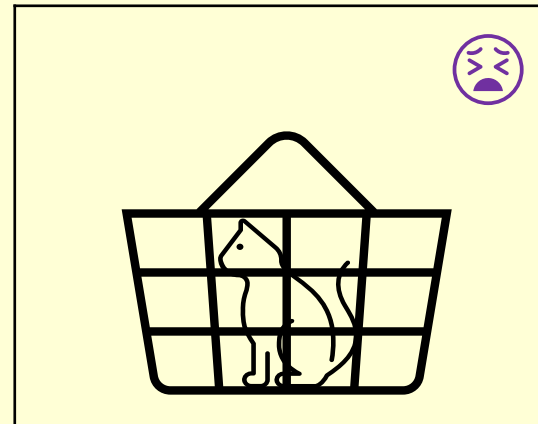
If I don't stroke the dog, it will be happy, and I will be kind.



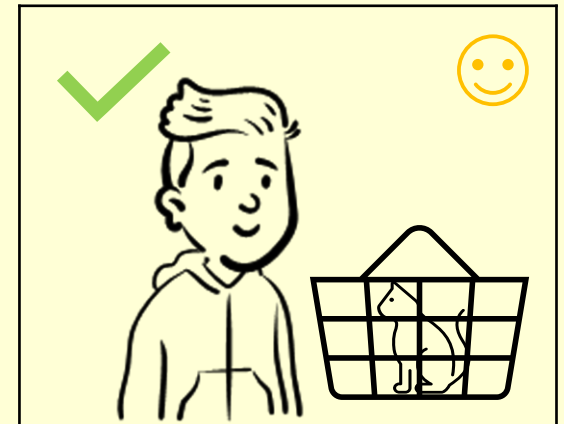
I may want to touch the other pets that are in cages.



I may not be allowed to touch the pets, and I may feel sad or angry.

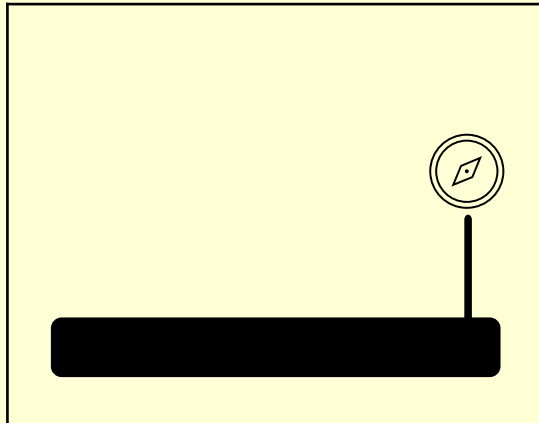


The pets might be too worried to be touched.

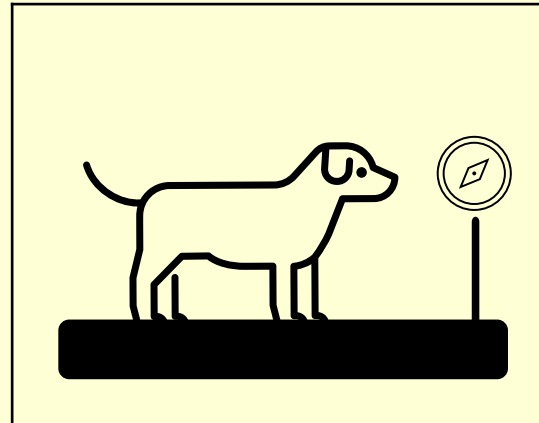


If I don't touch the pets in cages, they will be happy.

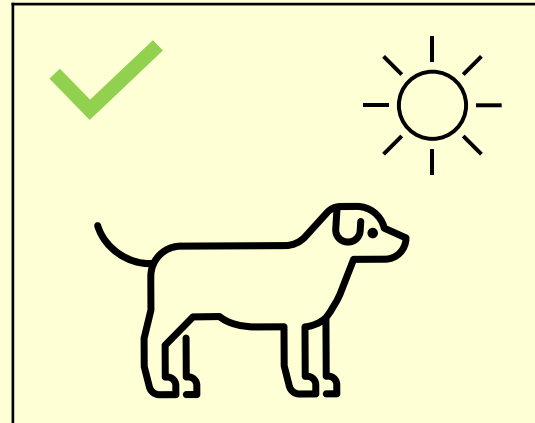
# What happens when the vet arrives?



The vet may weigh your dog to see if they are too heavy, too light or just right.



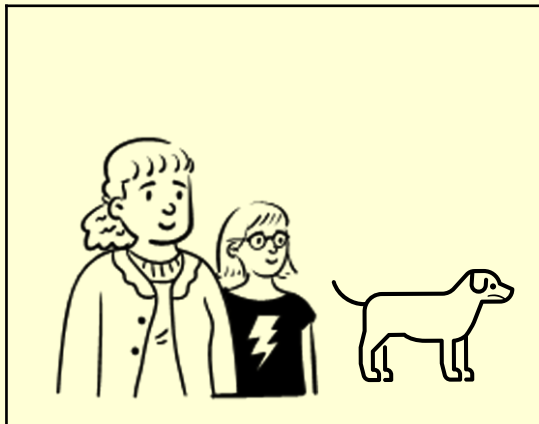
When your dog stands on the scales it tells the vet how much your dog weighs.



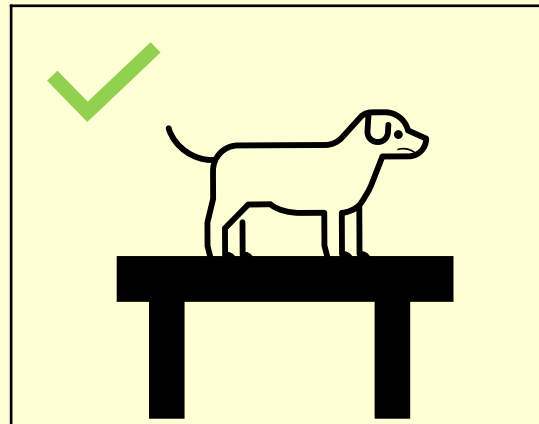
This is a good way to know if your dog needs more exercise outside.



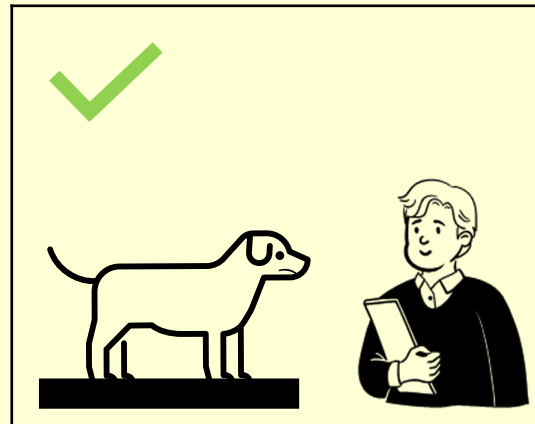
Your vet will be happy to know your dog's weight.



The vet will take you, your grown-up and your dog to a quiet room.



The vet may put your dog on a table so they can look at them closely.

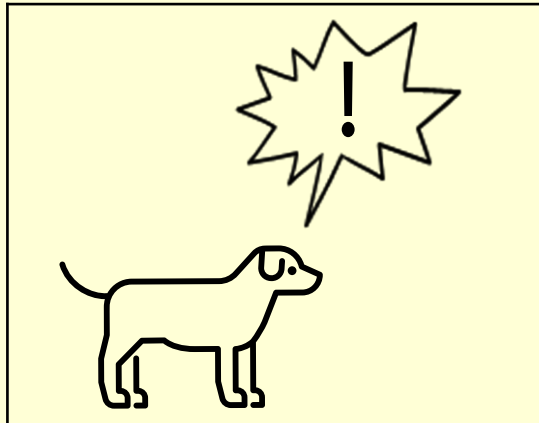


The vet will look at your dog and check parts of your dog's body.



The vet does this so they can tell how to help your dog.

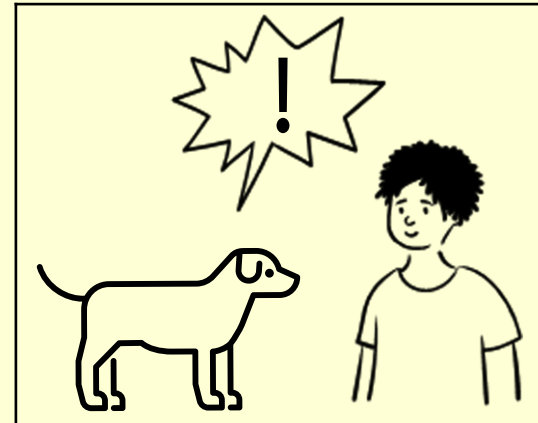
# What is the vet going to do?



My dog may growl or bark at the vet because they are cross, or worried.



This may make me worried that my dog is angry.



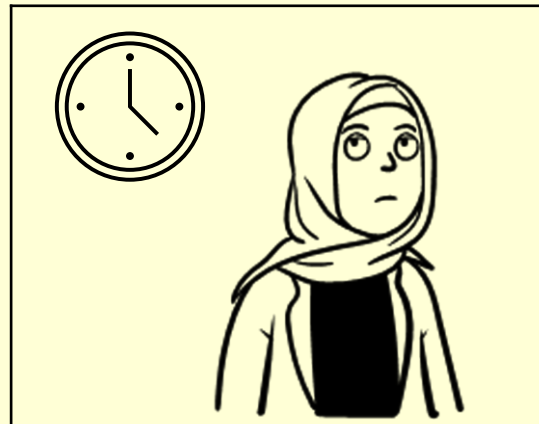
The vet is clever and will ask a vet nurse for help.



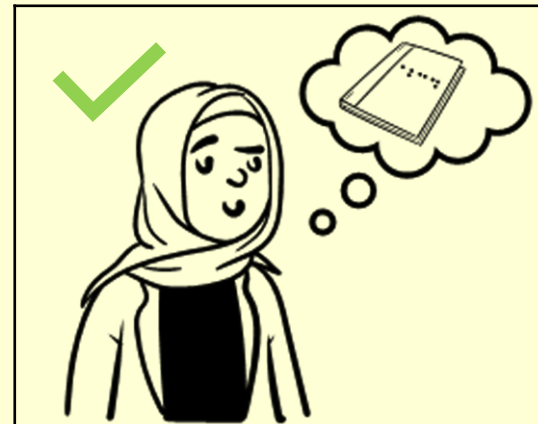
The vet and the vet nurse are brave and will do their best to help your dog stay calm.



The vet will ask your grown-up questions, and they may talk a lot about your dog.



I may get bored of listening to the grown-ups talk.

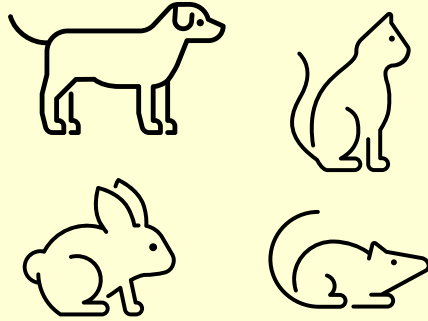


I can use the item I brought to help me wait, so I won't be bored.



The grown-ups will be happy that they can talk without me being bored.

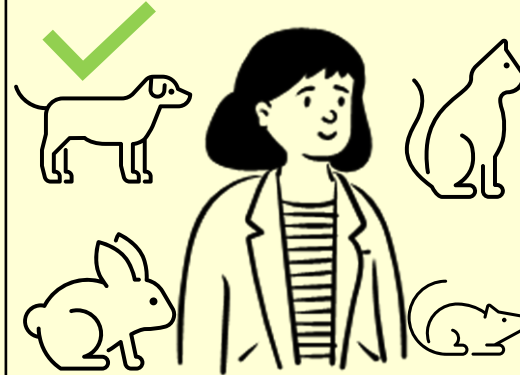
# What is the vet going to do?



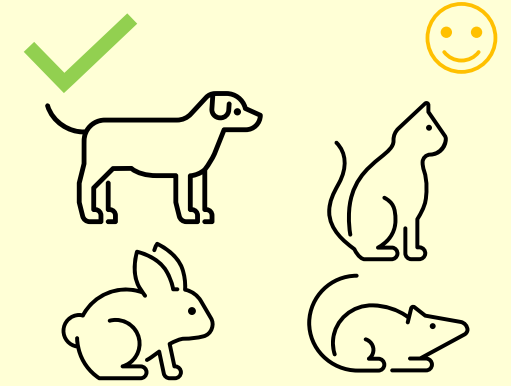
Sometimes healthy pets will need to see the vet.



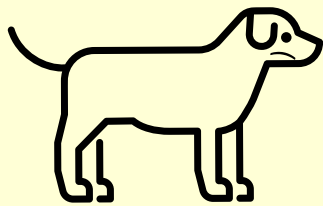
The vet will check to make sure they are not sick or hurt.



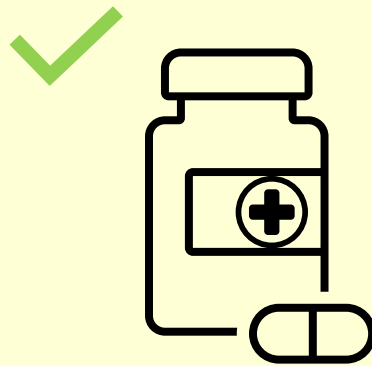
The vet likes to see all pets to make sure they are cared for.



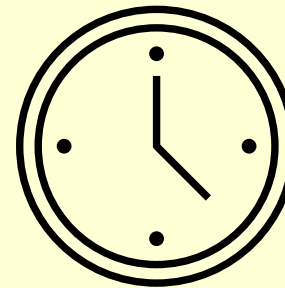
It is good to be kind to pets.



When a pet is sick or hurt, they will need to see the vet.



The vet will try their best to make your pet healthy again with medicine.

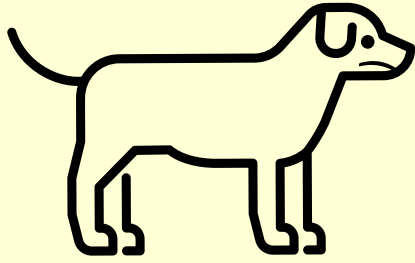


This may be hard to do and might take time.



The vet will always do their best to help.

# What if my pet must stay at the vet practice?



Sometimes when your pet is hurt or sick, they will need to stay at the vets.



I might be worried, or sad, that I am leaving my pet at the vets.



Your pet needs to stay with the vet so they can have medicine and be looked after.



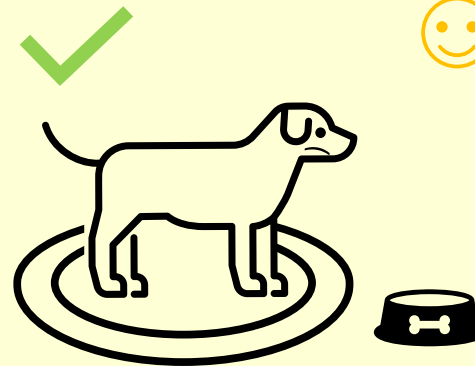
Your vet is kind and will try their hardest to help your pet.



If your pet stays at the vet practice you might wonder where they go.



This might make you worried that your pet will be alone.



The vet nurses will make your pet a cosy bed to sleep in and give them some water.

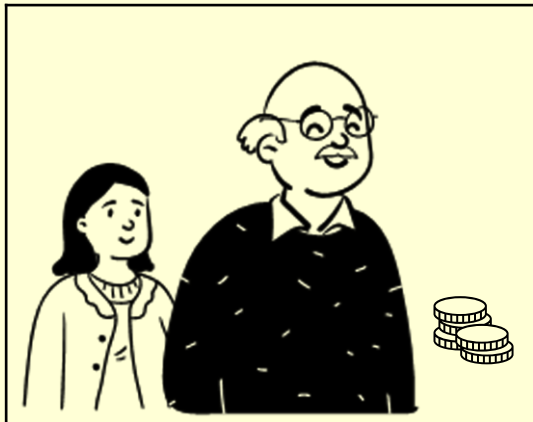


The vet nurses are kind and will make sure your pet is comfortable.

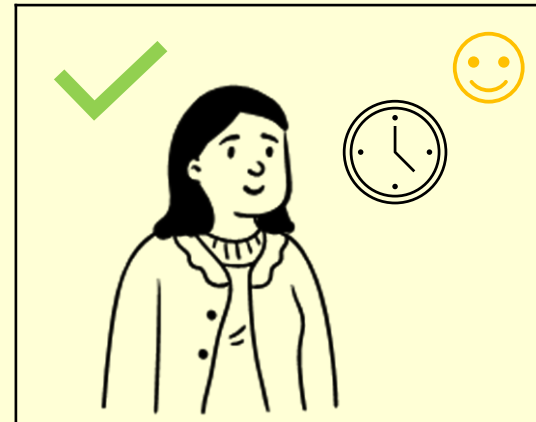
# What happens when it's time to go home?



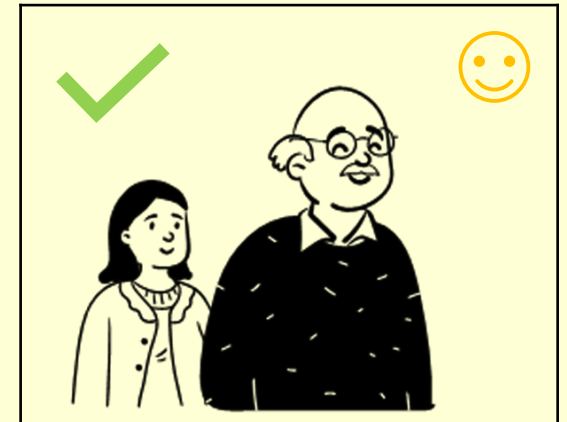
I might want to rush home after seeing the vet.



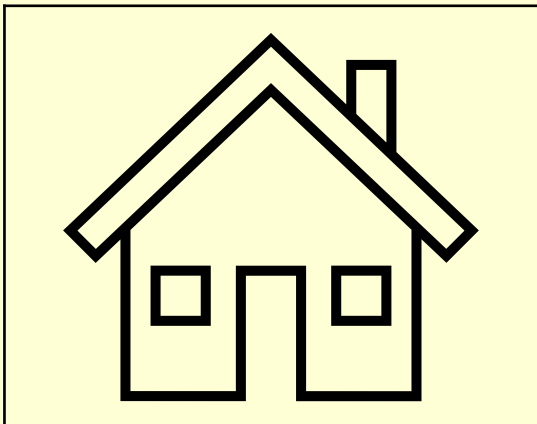
My grown-up may need to speak to the receptionist before we leave.



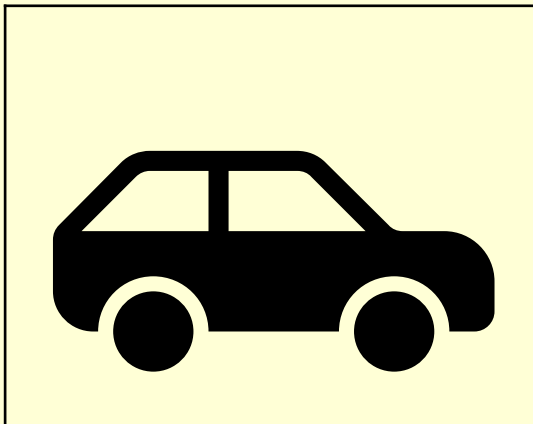
I will wait with my grown-up until they are finished.



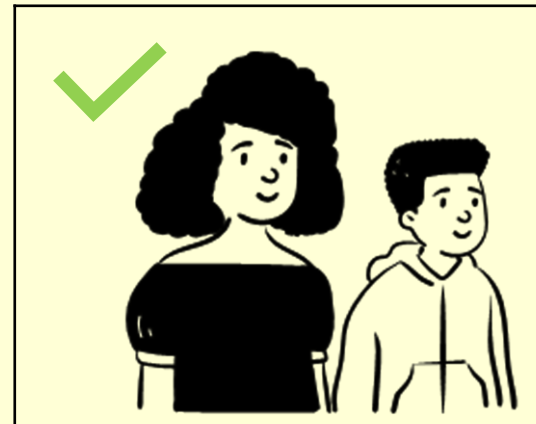
My grown-up will be happy that I waited calmly.



When we leave the vet practice to go home, we may need to go through their car park.



We need to be safe in the car park in case there are moving cars.



I will stay with my grown-up and look both ways for cars.



This will keep me and my grown-up safe and happy.

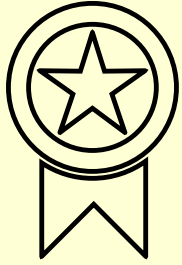
# My picture page

Why not  
draw a  
picture of  
your dog?

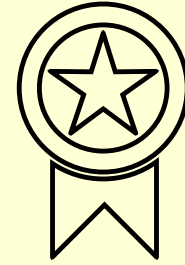


**We would love for you to send us a drawing of your dog.**

Your grown-up can email your picture to [marketing@vetsure.com](mailto:marketing@vetsure.com)



# The Vetsure Kids Kindness Award



This awards goes to

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for visiting the vets

