

Hannah J. — Work with Animals

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School District of Shell Lake

I have always loved animals even when I was little. I have a couple dogs and a cat. So I want to work with animals. But not just work with them, I want to help them. I want to work with rescue animals. To help rehabilitate them and find them new homes. Many rescue animals come from bad places and they just need a second chance.

I would be able to work with animals all day. I have always been able to calm dogs and get them to trust me easily. Cats as well. I once worked with a border collie named Jackie when I was part of a school club that goes to the animal shelter. No one could get her to trust them. I couldn't get her to either. So I just sat in her kennel for weeks. Just talking to her. Then one day she layed down and I reached over to her. She let me pet her. She just layed there. I was the first one she ever trusted. I also ride. I love horses so much. It would take a lot of time and effort to work with them, but I would love it.

My dad has a close friend that is a veterinarian. Because he knows us, we are allowed in the back. He lets me see the animals that are there. I even sometimes get to be there when he is operating on a dog or cat. But surgeries are not exactly my thing. But I love going. It is fascinating to see everything. When I helped out at the animal shelter I always left dirty and covered in hair but it is a lot of fun. I cleaned windows, food bowls, kennels and litter boxes. And I helped feed and water the animals. Then after that was done I got to play with the animals. And break up a few cat fights over who caught the disappearing red dot first!

I love working with scared animals. My dad says I got it from my mom and she agrees. Considering she adopted numerous scared cats and a retired greyhound that needed her. But if they are nervous and scared of people I want to be with them. It takes time, but eventually, like Jackie, they will come to trust you. You need to take your time. Work with them and give them a reason to trust you.

This is why it would be my dream job to help animals.