VOLUME 50, ISSUE 4 NOVEMBER 16, 2026

Mott Poll Questions

C.S. MOTT CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HEALTH

Pets

The following questions were answered by parents with children age 6-12 years old.

Q1. How much do you agree with the following?

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
a. Pets are good for children's emotional health.			

Q2. Do you have a family pet?

1. Yes
2. Not currently, but have had in the past 3 years
3. No

[If Q2 = 1]
Q3. Is your child age 6-12 years responsible for helping take care of the pet in any of the following ways?
Select all that apply.

1. Feeding
2. Exercise / play
3. Cleaning up after pet (e.g., poop, litterbox, cage)
4. Other
5. None

[If Q3 = 1-4]
Q4. How often is your child expected to help take care of the pet?

1. Daily
2. A few times a week
3. When asked

[If Q3 = 1-4]
Q5. Is helping with the pet:

1. Required for child to earn their allowance
2. Required as part of regular chores
3. Just part of being a family member
4. An occasional thing

[If Q3 = 1-4]
Q6. How often does your child do their assigned job?

1. Almost always
2. Usually
3. Sometimes
4. Rarely

[If Q3 = 1-4]
Q7. What happens if your child does not do their assigned job? *Select all that apply.*

1. Parent reminds child to do it
2. Child gets a consequence (e.g., grounded, no screen time)
3. Another family member takes care of it
4. Other

[If Q2 = 2 or 3]
Q8. Why do you not have a family pet? *Select all that apply.*

1. Too expensive
2. Too time-consuming
3. Allergies
4. Child is scared of animals
5. Just don't want one
6. Previous pet died, not ready to get another
7. Other
8. No particular reason

[If Q2 = 2 or 3]
Q9. Has your child age 6-12 years asked to get a pet?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know

Q10. Should children age 6-12 years old be expected to help take care of the family pet?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Only if they asked to get the pet

Q11. If a child asks for a pet and then does not help take care of it, even after parents remind them, should parents give the pet away?

1. Yes – the child will learn consequences
2. Maybe
3. No – it will traumatize the child

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