New England Common Assessment Program

Student Work Samples
2012

Grade 7

Reading

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All of the myths in this passage are all wrong because... Myth one- Herps make cheap pets. Herps do not make cheap pets! Sure a baby lizard is around $10 but you also have to pay for furnishing, Materials to cover up the bottom, lighting equiptment, heating equiptment, cleaning equiptment, pet care, food and electricity, this pet could cost up to $250 or more. Myth two- Herps are easy to take care for. Herps are more work then other pets, they are highly specialized pets, they need specific enviomental and dietary care, they also need regular check ups there is a lot more two. Myth three- Herps do not live for very long, when taken care of right they can live for a very long time. Frogs, Lizzards, and Snakes can live up two 10-20 years, Tortoises can live up two 100 years! Lastly Myth four- Herps stay small, they will only grow to the size of their enclosur, They can grow up to a 6 foot adult, Sulcuta Tortoises can grow to be 100 pounds! This is why these myths are wrong.

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Myth # 1 is incorrect because buying the pet is the cheapest part but them taking care of it might cost up to $250!
Myth # 2 is incorrect because they can be more work to take care of, then any other pet. Because when having them in captivity you have to imotate their environment as best as you can. Myth #3 is incorrect because if you take care of them correctly they can live a very long life (tortise can live to be over 100 yrs.) Myth # 4 is incorrect because even though you might have a small enclosure, a 6-inch iguana could grow up to be a 6 FT iguana. Its inhumane to keep them in a small enclosure.

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The myths about herps are all incorrect. Herps can cost more than most animals for the enclosure and making the animal feel at home. They often have special diets and such. Mostly, it is a long-term commitment. They can grow to immense sizes, and become very hard to take care of. Nothing is easy about taking care of a herp.

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Each myth about herps is wrong because, a herp can live very long. It can get very big. And they are not cheap.

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They are myths because exotic animals are very easy to take care of.

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There are many reasons why the author considers a herp a big commitment. In the text it says, "on top of the cost of the animal itself is the inital cost of the encloser, furnishings, material to cover the bottom, lighting equipment, and other supplies." There is also the ongoing cost of food, electricity for heating and lights, and vetrinary care. Herps also end up being more work than other pets. Herps are highly specalized animals, and have very specific enviormental and dietary needs. It also takes alot of time money, and energy to create a suitable sized encloser. To keep the herp healthy you will have to have the right tempature, light and humidity, you also have to have a varity of food, water sources, simulation, and shelter. You will also have a daily rotine of preparing food, cleaning and disinfecting the encloser, checking the water, checking the tempature, watching the animals health, and handling it.

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Why is having a herp a huge commitment?
It is a huge commitment for many reasons. First, Once you get it, you have to buy all the equipment and food it needs. I think that would be really hard to do and pretty much cost all the money I get. Also, you are stuck with them most of your life when you get one because they live so long. I don't think I would be able to do that. Lastly, they can grow really big, they might start out small, but they can grow very big, so you keep having to get bigger tanks for them. I think that's a big nuisance because tanks cost a lot of money. As you can see having a herp is a huge commitment.

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The author of this passage makes it clear that owning a herp is a very big commitment. You have to have lots of time, and money to take care of a herp properly! Also when you do take care of your herp properly it can grow to be very large, and live anywhere from 10-100 years depending on the animal! Taking care of an animal for that long is a huge commitment

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The author think that it is a huge responsible job. Taking care of a pet is hard, usually a reptile can be dangerous. It is hard to buy food and equiment. So it is a huge commitment.

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The author did that because he wanted to make a good myth and passage way for people and other kids Thats why.