

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Furry Friends: Why Growing Up with Pets is a Paw-sitive Experience for Students!

### Short Answer Key

1. Having a pet teaches children responsibility by requiring them to establish a routine for feeding, grooming, and exercise, instilling a sense of duty and accountability for the pet's well-being.
2. Pets can improve a student's mental well-being by reducing stress and anxiety through the release of feel-good hormones like oxytocin when petting, as well as providing a constant source of companionship and comfort.
3. Pets provide emotional support and comfort to students by being non-judgmental listeners and offering affection and solace when the child is upset or in need of comfort.
4. Physical activity with pets, such as playing, running, and walking, encourages a healthier lifestyle for students by promoting exercise and outdoor activities, which can contribute to improved physical health.
5. Memories and bonds created with a pet are considered lasting because the adventures and experiences shared with a beloved pet become cherished memories that students carry with them throughout their lives.

