

Approach: Station

Year: 4 & 8

Focus: Analysing information to make a decision

Resources: 5 information cards

Questions / instructions:

% responses
y4 y8

Cockatoo



Cost: \$35
Food: Seeds Green vegetables
Grass Fruit
Cage: Bird cage
Other Information:
Cockatoos can talk and they can be quite noisy. Cockatoos sometimes nip people with their beaks.

Mouse




Cost: \$5
Food: Pellets Fruit
Raw vegetables
Cage: Small cage
Other Information:
Mice need their cage cleaned twice a week.

Turtle




Cost: \$120
Food: Meat Vegetables
Cage: Tank
Other Information:
Some turtles carry bacteria that can make people sick. It is important to wash your hands after touching a turtle.

Cat



Cost: \$20
Food: Meat Cat biscuits
Cage: No cage
Other Information:
Cats find it hard moving to a new house. When a family moves a cat will often return to the old home.

Guinea Pig



Cost: \$15
Food: Pellets Vegetables
Fruit
Cage: Hutch
Other Information:
Guinea pigs do not like living in noisy places.

Imagine your class is going to choose a pet.

Choose a pet that:

- Does not cost more than \$40
- Does not make it hard for children to do their work
- Can stay at school during the weekend
- Is easy for a child to take home and look after during the holidays

Use the information on the five cards to work out which pet will be the best for your class.

1. Which animal will be best as your class pet?

guinea pig	27	20
✓ mouse	47	70
cockatoo	6	2
turtle	3	1
cat	16	5
any other response	1	2

2. Why is this the best animal to choose as a class pet?

mentioned cost	41	63
mentioned distraction issue	43	51
mentioned that the animal can stay at school during weekend	8	17
mentioned that animal can be cared for during the holidays	9	18
mentioned other relevant point (e.g. safety)	38	54

Total score:

5-6	3	7
4	4	23
3	22	33
2	29	16
1	29	14
0	13	7

Commentary:

Seventy-one percent of year 4 students and 37 percent of year 8 students scored two or less, indicating quite limited proficiency in using information and criteria to make an appropriate decision and justify that decision using the criteria.