Pet Tip # 1
READY OR NOT.
Before you buy a critter, do your research. Be sure you know how much time, money, and responsibility it will take. Taking care of a pet can be a big job—make sure you’re ready.

Pet Tip # 2
ASK AN EXPERT.
Before you decide on a pet, talk to a kennel owner (someone who raises dogs), the humane society, or call a veterinarian (a doctor for animals) about what kind of pet would be best for you.

Pet Tip # 3
WILD THING.
There are animals that make perfect house pets. But, there are others that are best left in the wild. Wild animals aren’t people friendly or used to being pets and prefer the great outdoors.

Pet Tip # 4
LIONS, TIGERS, AND BOOKS? OH, MY!
The safest way to get up close and personal with your favorite wild animal is to read more about it in a book or magazine or visit it at the local zoo.

Pet Tip # 5
UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL.
When you see a pet you have never met before, don’t reach out to pet it, no matter how nice it looks. Just wait to be introduced by the owner.

Pet Tip # 6
LET SLEEPING ANIMALS LIE.
Pets don’t like surprises or being disturbed while eating or sleeping—especially mama pets with babies!
Pet Tip # 7
CRITTER CRUNCHES.
If an animal bites you, be sure to tell an adult as soon as possible so you can get any treatment you need to protect you from diseases animals may carry.