"DO"S AND "DON'T"S FOR PETS

In lots of homes, mealtime isn't complete without a pooch or cat begging for a taste test! Some people foods are okay to give to your pet as a special treat, but many can be dangerous. Just like people, pets might be picky about foods they like. Some might taste one of these safe treats and instead use it as a toy to play with!

Let's start with dogs. Blueberries are a safe food and can support their immune system, just like they do for us. Apples are okay too—but always cut off slices. Never give your pup the core or seeds. And carrots aren't just treats for bunnies! Dogs enjoy them too, and crunching on the veggie can be good for their teeth. Green beans, cucumbers and watermelon are safe as well.

Now for dangerous people foods. Never let your dog eat grapes (even just a couple), as this can lead to kidney failure. The same goes for raisins. Chocolate is a big one for the danger list—it can cause seizures and internal bleeding. So are onions; they can damage red blood cells (other foods in the onion family are unsafe too, like scallions, chives and garlic).

So, how about cats? They also can eat blueberries (try them frozen!), and carrots. But be sure to soften the carrots by boiling them, and cut them into small pieces. If your cat likes chewing on indoor plants, offer steamed or boiled broccoli; she might enjoy it because the texture is similar to house plants. Kitties can also eat apples, but remove the skin and never feed the core or seeds.

One of the main things you should not give cats is milk. They may get an upset stomach, as they can't properly digest it once they no longer nurse from their mama cats. They should also avoid any foods high in lactose, like ice cream and cheese. Chocolate, grapes, raisins and onions are also dangerous to cats. And since they're skilled at jumping to high places (like tables and counters), be sure to thoroughly clean up after cooking.

SAFE PEOPLE FOODS SHOULD NOT REPLACE YOUR PETS' NORMAL, DAILY DIET, AS PET FOOD IS MADE WITH SPECIAL NUTRIENTS THEY NEED.



CONTACT YOUR VETERINARIAN

IF YOUR PET HAS INGESTED AN UNSAFE HUMAN FOOD. AND CHECK WITH THEM BEFORE GIVING YOUR PET ANY OF THE SAFE FOODS. It's also good to get AN ADULT'S HELP!

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