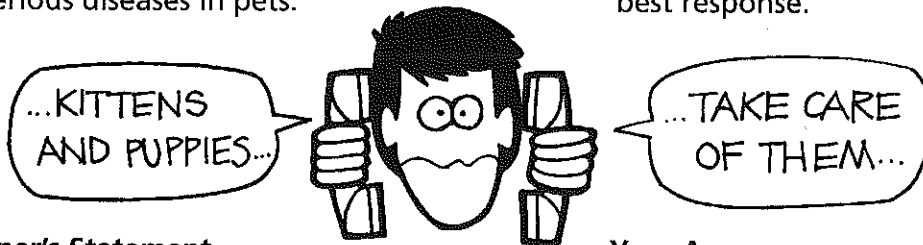


KIND Name _____

Operation Pet Care

Each year, millions of healthy cats and dogs find themselves without one important thing. It's the thing they need most of all—a good home.

The main reason so many animals are without homes is that not enough people spay or neuter their pets. Those operations prevent animals from having babies. They also help prevent many serious diseases in pets.



Pet Owner's Statement

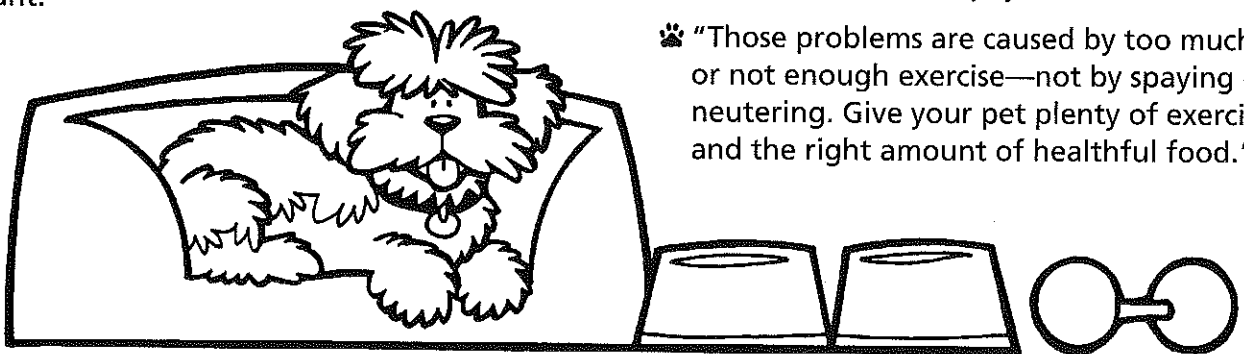
- "Neutering my cat might make him lazy and overweight."
- "It's okay for my pets to have babies. Finding homes for kittens and puppies is easy! Who wouldn't want a new pet?"
- "I can drop off my kittens and puppies in the countryside, near a farm. Someone will probably find them and take care of them. If not, they can take care of themselves, right?"
- "We should build bigger animal shelters. Then they can take in all the pets that people don't want."

Why don't all pet owners spay or neuter their pets? Some people don't understand why spaying and neutering are so important.

Pretend you're answering phones at an animal shelter. Listen to the following messages from pet owners. How would you respond to each call? Draw a line from each statement to the best response.

Your Answer

- 🐾 "Cats and dogs aren't wild animals. They need people to give them food, shelter, water, and attention."
- 🐾 "Having a dog or a cat is a big responsibility. Instead of bringing more pets into the world, we need to find homes for those that are already in need."
- 🐾 "Building bigger shelters doesn't solve the problem. All pets deserve a home of their own. Pet owners must do their part to help. Instead of letting their pets have babies, they need to have them spayed or neutered."
- 🐾 "Those problems are caused by too much food or not enough exercise—not by spaying or neutering. Give your pet plenty of exercise and the right amount of healthful food."



On the back, write a dialogue (conversation) between two people talking about spaying and neutering. Do the two speakers agree at first? Do they agree later on? Remember to put each person's words in quotation marks (" ").