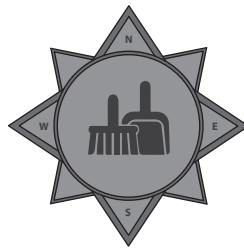


BATHE AN ANIMAL

Okay, this seems simple and easy. But let me warn you, you have been totally lied to by your TV shows. Bathing an animal is like war. It is you pitting your wits and strength against an animal, and probably coming off worse. And how do I know this? Because I am an animal and I have been on the receiving end of baths way too many times.

FLIP OVER FOR YOUR NEXT CHALLENGE



EARN THIS NUGGET

Bathe an animal on two separate occasions or two different animals. Try to do it without a single scratch. Make sure your parents are present and that they guide you throughout, albeit at a dry distance.

LEVEL F**B-10**

There will come a time when an animal needs a cleaning. Dogs go and roll in something nasty or guinea pigs start to smell more like pigs and less like guineas. These instructions will be general, because I don't know what animals you have in your household. Maybe you have a hippo for all I know.

- Select a good place to do the bathing. Outside is a good option because of the mess. For smaller animals, inside is fine and you always have the bathtub as an option.
- Gather all of your supplies. You can't get halfway through and then go looking for soap. The animal will need your total attention from start to finish.
- If you are using towels, make sure they are not the best Egyptian cotton towels that Grandma sent you all for Christmas. This is where you'll probably break out the old torn ones or something similar.
- Safety first. Animals for the most part have claws and the most trusting feline can turn into a feral monster when bath time comes. They don't understand and may be afraid that they will be drowned. So be sensitive and be super careful.

- Don't make water hot, lukewarm at best. Animals can be a whole lot more sensitive than people.

Good luck, RockHopper, you'll probably need it.

