

HMDC Elementary Debate Class (Summer 2024) - Arguments

Topic: Owning exotic pets would be desirable.

INTRODUCTION (PRO)

Hello, my name is... [Full Name].

Today, we will discuss: Owning Exotic Pets.

My partner and I believe that owning exotic pets is desirable.

To begin, let's discuss: Increasing Education

PRO-01: Increasing Education

Owning exotic pets will increase education.

Because...

First... Preparation Requires Research

According to... Exotic Pets Place, June 24, 2023

https://exoticpetsplace.com/exotic-pet-benefits/#Preparation_Requires_Research

It States... Owners must learn about their exotic pets' food, home, and health. This research is important for the pets' care and helps owners learn more about science.

This Means... Owning exotic pets will help people learn more because it needs careful research, helping them understand science better.

Also... Opportunity to Show Friends

According to... the Animal PHA (Website), March 14, 2023

<https://animalpha.com/the-pros-and-cons-of-keeping-exotic-animals/>

It States... Sharing facts about exotic pets with friends helps everyone learn. Talking about these pets makes others curious and interested in learning.

This Means... Owning exotic pets will help education because it makes friends talk and learn about different animals and why they are important.

Therefore... Owning exotic pets WILL increase education.

The next argument I will present is... Improving Health and Wellbeing.

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PRO-02: Improving Health and Well-being

Owning exotic pets will improve health and well-being.

Because...

First... Reduced Allergy Problems

According to... the Ten West Bird & Animal Hospital, May 15, 2024

<https://www.tenwestvet.com/blog/why-own-avian-and-exotic-pets/>

It States... If you have allergies, you might avoid pets like cats and dogs because their fur causes itchy eyes and sneezing. However, many exotic pets don't cause allergies, meaning you can have a pet without health issues.

This Means... Owning exotic pets will allow people with allergies to enjoy having pets because many exotic pets do not cause allergic reactions, offering a safe and fun alternative to traditional pets.

Also... Stress Relief and Mental Health Benefits

According to... the Exotic Pets Place (Website), April 8, 2023

[https://exoticpetsplace.com/exotic-pet-benefits/#3 Mental Health Benefits](https://exoticpetsplace.com/exotic-pet-benefits/#3_Mental_Health_Benefits)

It States... Studies show that owning a pet can improve mental health by reducing stress, anxiety, and depression. Exotic pets can be especially helpful because their unique and interesting nature brings a sense of newness and excitement, which can lift your mood and make you feel better.

This Means... Owning exotic pets will improve the mental health of many people because the newness and excitement of exotic animals can reduce stress, anxiety, and depression, making them feel better overall.

Therefore... Owning exotic pets WILL improve health and well-being.

So, for all these reasons, please vote for the PRO. Thank you.

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INTRODUCTION (CON)

Hello, my name is... [Full Name].

Today, we will discuss: Owning Exotic Pets.

My partner and I believe that owning exotic pets is undesirable.

To begin, let's discuss: Risks to Health and Safety

CON-01: Posing Serious Health & Safety Risks

Owning exotic pets poses serious health and safety risks.

Because...

First... Zoonotic Disease Transmission

According to... the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), June 15, 2023:
<https://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/pets/exotic-pets.html>

It States... Exotic pets can carry diseases that can be passed to humans. Taking care of these animals can make people sick because the pets have germs that can spread.

This Means... Owning exotic pets can make people sick because these animals often have germs that can cause illness in humans.

Also... Physical Safety Concerns

According to... Animal Welfare Institute, April 2023:
<https://awionline.org/content/exotic-pets-and-public-safety>

It States... Exotic pets can be dangerous because of their natural behaviors. Big animals like large reptiles and primates can hurt people if they feel scared or are not kept safely. Even small pets can bite or scratch, which can cause infections.

This Means... Owning exotic pets can be risky because these animals might act unpredictably, especially when they are stressed or not handled correctly.

Therefore... Owning exotic pets WILL pose serious health and safety risks.

Our next argument is... Harming the Environment

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CON-02: Threatening the Environment

Owning exotic pets will threaten the environment.

Because...

First... Impact on Native Ecosystems

According to... National Geographic, February 20, 2019:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/article/exotic-pet-trade>

It States... Taking exotic pets from their natural homes can harm local plants and animals. This can make wild animals fewer and hurt the environment.

This Means... Owning exotic pets can harm nature because taking these animals from the wild can upset the balance and reduce the variety of living things.

Also... Invasive Species Risk

According to... the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, March 2023:

<https://www.fws.gov/invasive-species-program>

It States... Exotic pets that escape or are let go can cause big problems in nature. They might fight with local animals for food and space, spread sickness, and damage the environment.

This Means... Owning exotic pets can cause problems because escaped or released pets can live and grow in new places, causing serious harm to the environment.

Therefore... Owning exotic pets WILL threaten the environment.

So, for all these reasons, please vote for the CON. Thank you.