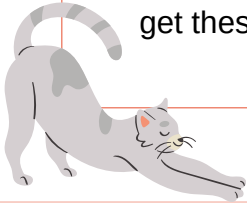




Top 10 Reasons

The BCSPCA has lots of animals who are looking for their forever homes, but where do we get these animals from? In this activity, kids explore the top 10 reasons animals are surrendered to a shelter.




Materials: Print and cut out 1 set of 'reasons cards'

This activity can be played 2 ways! Once you're finished with one version, try the other!

 **Option 1: Which Doesn't Belong?**

- 1** Give 1 set of cards to each group
- 2** Explain that these are all reasons animals come to the SPCA, but four of them do not belong in the top ten
- 3** Now find the four that do not belong

As an added challenge - have them find the number 1 reason and/or try to put them in order

 **Option 2: Find and Sort**

- 1** Hide 1 set of cards per group around the play space (only use the top 10, don't hide the extra 4)
- 2** Each person runs to find a card. They must bring the card to the assembly space when they find it and run back to find more
- 3** Repeat until all 10 cards are found. Then have the group try putting cards in Top 10 order

**Answer Key:**

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1) Moving | 6) Too many pets in home |
| 2) Pets not allowed in rental homes | 7) Pet illness |
| 3) Cost of having a pet | 8) Personal problems |
| 4) No time for pet | 9) Biting |
| 5) Unsuitable home environment | 10) No homes for littermates |

Thinking Questions 

Were you surprised at any of the reasons animal end up at the SPCA?
What factors should people consider before adopting a pet?

**Parent Tip:**

Want to extend the activity? Look up adoptable animals on [our website](#) and choose one to create an [adoption poster](#) for! Scan it and email it to the shelter when you are finished!



Top 10 Reasons Cards

Print and cut out

Moving	Pet(s) not allowed in rental home
Cost of having a pet	No time for pet
Unsuitable home environment	Too many pets in home
Pet illness	Personal problems
Biting	No homes for littermates
Stray / Found	Lack of training
Pet is too old	Behaviour issues