



## Screening Children for Involvement in Animal-Assisted Therapy

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*This form can be utilized by/adapted to fit the need of AAI professionals working with children. There are many steps that a professional should take prior to introducing a therapy animal to a child. Created by AAAIP member Macy Burr (OTD, OTR/L), this screening form walks a professional through considerations related to therapeutic rationale, risk assessment, and personal background related to animals.*

Contact Information			
Client name:	Sex:	Date of Birth:	Age:
Parent/Guardian's name:			
Address:			
Email:			
Phone:	School attending:		
General information regarding animal assisted intervention preferences:			
Describe reasons why you would like a therapy dog to be involved in your child's therapy:			
In what ways could a therapy dog enhance therapy for your child?			



What therapeutic goals do you think a therapy dog could assist with?

### Allergies

Is your child allergic to dogs?

Is your child allergic to other animals? If so, what types?

### Risk for Zoonosis

Does your child have an infection, open wound, burns, or are immunocompromised? If yes, please describe:

### Fears related to animals

Is your child fearful of dogs?

Does your child get scared with normal dog behaviors (licking, jumping, sniffing, etc.)? Please describe:

Does your child appear fearful when dogs moves quickly?

### Phobias

Describe any phobias that your child has:

### Past Animal Experiences



# AAAIP

Association of Animal-Assisted  
Intervention Professionals

Has your child interacted with dogs in the past? Please describe:

**If yes, answer the following questions:**

Does your child try to train dogs or teach them new tricks? Please describe.

Does your child use physical force or a raised voice when trying to train dogs?

Have you witnessed your child being aggressive towards dogs?

Does your child smile and or laugh when dogs are around?

Does your child enjoy spending time with dogs?

Does your child have a history of animal-related trauma? (This can range from the loss of a pet to being attacked). Please describe:

Is there any information about your child that should be taken into consideration before initiation of animal assisted therapy?