

Transcript of Jesse Benjamin, Veterinarian

The coolest part of my job is... getting to live my dream every day at work!

A veterinarian is an animal doctor. You are responsible for everything that has to do with animal health. That is a general practitioner, a surgeon, a dentist, a radiologist; basically everything that has to do with keeping animals healthy.

If you want to be a veterinarian, in high school definitely your sciences; biology being most important and also math because we use math every single day.

So if you think you're interested in being a veterinarian, I would recommend you trying to volunteer at your local clinic. You may just be cleaning kennels and that sort of thing, but you will get to see what's truly involved with the job.

On a day to day basis, things can be very routine if we're seeing a lot vaccines and just health checkups and that sort of thing. But we also have to deal with sick animals, obviously, which can be very different. You know sometimes we have traumas come in: hit by cars; you know, animals that are just really, really sick have to stay at hospital. We're tending to them as well as seeing appointments; really it just depends what comes in.

Every day we need to deal with people; so loving pets is not enough. You have to be good with dealing with people if you want to be a good veterinarian.

The favorite part of my job is, I think, the problem solving. You're really trying to figure out what's going on and you don't always get it right; but when you get there, it feels good.

We use science everyday just in the medicine that we do. We have to know what is normal what is abnormal. You need your biology, physiology to know when there is a problem and to understand how the body interacts.

My advice for you as you go through this process trying to achieve the goals would be that if you ever feel overwhelmed stuck, like you don't know where to go, just ask for help. People really want to see you succeed and they want to help you and all you need to do is ask.