BENEFITS YOU GET FROM ANIMALS

1. **As Sources of Food**
   People learned to domesticate animals for the food they can provide. They are always part of our basic foods. Live stocks such as cows, pigs and chicken are processed into food. Animal meat and other processed food contain various essential nutrients that your body needs for growth and repair.

2. **As Tools**
   Animals are used as tools in many ways. Carabaos and cows serve as helpers to farmers in ploughing the fields. Dogs, for one, are known for their keen sense of hearing and smell that can be used in many fields of work. They can be part of the hunting sport, crime prevention, illegal drugs and bombs detection and serve as aid to the handicapped.

3. **As Forms of Transport**
   Animals like cows, llama, camels, carabaos and horses are used to transport supplies in and out of mountainous regions and steep areas in the different parts of the world.

4. **As Test-specimens**
   Mice, rabbits and frogs are used as samplings in laboratories to find cures for various diseases. Drugs are tested on these animals to see if they have unfavourable effects on humans.

Animals are useful in so many ways but some of which are disease-carriers and considered harmful to people. What are some of the dangers brought about by these animals?

DANGERS POSED BY SOME ANIMALS

Some animals posed dangers to people. There are diseases you get directly from animals or others from bites of infected insects. It could also through ingesting or the accidental intake of food and water contaminated with animal faeces. Diseases of animals that are passed on to humans are called **zoonoses**. Here are some of the symptoms, possible treatment and prevention.
# A. Zoonoses from Some Animals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animal Involved</th>
<th>Symptoms and Effects</th>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Treatment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Leptospirosis Infection/Leptospirosis</strong>&lt;br&gt;Animals Involved: <em>mice, racoons, flies, cockroaches</em></td>
<td>The person may have the signs of high fever, severe headache, muscle ache and vomiting. It could lead to liver failure and kidney damage.</td>
<td>A person can get infected through direct contact with food, water or soil containing urine of the infected animal.</td>
<td>The immediate medication upon early signs involves high dosage of antibiotics.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Avian Influenza/Bird's Flu</strong>&lt;br&gt;Animal Involved: <em>birds</em></td>
<td>The person may have cough, diarrhea, headache, difficulty breathing, muscle aches</td>
<td>A person can get infected by birds infected by avian influenza.</td>
<td>Infected person must be put in isolation and antiviral medications. It is also advised to get influenza (flu) shot.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rabies</strong>&lt;br&gt;Animal Involved: <em>Cats and dogs</em></td>
<td>First signs of rabies on the victim are headache, vomiting, fever and fear of water. No treatment is possible if the victim shows signs of rabies and would lead to death.</td>
<td>The virus in saliva that affects the brain and causes death is spread by a bite of the infected animal.</td>
<td>Wash the wound well with soap or disinfectant. Then, seek medical attention immediately.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dengue Fever</strong>&lt;br&gt;Animal Involved: <em>Aedes Aegypti mosquito</em></td>
<td>The affected person experiences the presence of dengue triad- mild fever, rash and headache with other muscle and joint pains.</td>
<td>A virus is transmitted to a person through the bite of a striped Aedes Aegypti mosquito, a carrier of virus.</td>
<td>Since it is caused by a virus, There is no specific anti-viral medicine or antibiotic to treat it. But it is very important that the victim gets rest and fluid intake for adequate hydration.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prevention:
1. Have your dogs, cats and other pets vaccinated.
2. Do not touch or go near stray animals.
3. Inform your parents/ vet if you observe your pets show some strange behaviour.
### B. Insect Bites

**Sting**

Animal Involved:
*Bees, wasps, hornets*

**Cause:** The sting made by bees, wasps and hornets causes a sudden pain and appears as a raised white patch on a reddened part of skin.

**Symptoms:**
*Mild Reactions:* The person affected feels the itching/stinging sensation and mild swelling that disappears within a day or two. He may also experience fever and painful joints.

*Severe Reactions:* The person may experience nausea, facial swelling, difficulty breathing and rapid heartbeat.

**Treatment:**

**Mild Reactions:**
1. Remove the stinger, if still stuck in the skin.
2. Wash the area with soap and water.
3. Apply cold pack.
4. Take antihistamine for any signs of allergic reactions.
5. See a doctor if you observe some allergic reactions.

**Severe Reactions:**
1. Call for medical help immediately.

For First-Aid:
2. Take antihistamine medicine.
3. Let the person lie still and loosen tight clothing.
4. Turn the person on his side to prevent choking.
Research Activity: Read articles about an animal. Then, complete the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description: Mode of Reproduction</th>
<th>Explain at which stage of its life cycle it is considered useful/beneficial to man.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of Animal</td>
<td>Explain at which stage of its life cycle it is considered harmful/pose danger to people.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Describe its economic value to people/importance in the ecosystem.

Reference:
Understanding Life Through Science by Winona Yapit-Diola, Phoenix Publishing House, Inc.