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Kind regards,

Alena Verrel
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Key principles of AAI

- Overview regarding the use of various animals
- Theoretical and practical information in a range of different areas
- Includes contributions by 35 professional experts in the field of animal assisted interventions

The active involvement of animals constitutes an ideal approach in many therapeutic, medical and educational contexts. Positive basic attitudes such as appreciation and a resource-, context- and solution-oriented approach, in addition to the application of a variety of methods, ensures that animal assisted work can be used as a valuable tool.

This reference book describes methods and approaches to animal assisted interventions, and provides a broad overview of current standards in research and practice. It summarises relevant know-how in one volume, and acts as a useful manual on all questions relating to animal assisted interventions. Topics include fundamental theories and models, a range of settings, specific challenges concerning work with animals and various fields of application and husbandry conditions.

Author information

Dr. Andrea Beetz, grad. psychologist, is a private lecturer at the Institute for Special Educational Developmental Support and Rehabilitation at the University of Rostock, Germany, President of the International Society for Animal Assisted Therapy (ISAAT) and board member of the International Association of Human-Animal Interaction Organizations (IAHAIO).

Dr. Meike Riedel, grad. sports scientist, is a research assistant at the Institute of Sports and Sports Science at the Technical University of Dortmund, Germany, and a FN-consultant.

Dr. Rainer Wohlfarth, Sasbachwalden, Germany, is a psychological psychotherapist and applies an animal assisted approach to his work with dogs and donkeys. He is also President of the European Society for Animal Assisted Therapy (ESAAT) and Vice-President of ISAAT.
Supportive llamas and alpacas

- Finally basics on the subject
- Specific interventions for various target groups
- Information about husbandry, animal protection and hygiene

“Do they spit?” – “Can I ride on them?” – “Do they bite?” There are many questions when confronted with llamas and alpacas for the first time. Llamas fascinate many people thanks to their calm ways radiating an enigmatic aura.

Apart from the basics on llamas and alpacas, the author explains the possibilities and limits of these animals assisted therapeutic work. She describes possible offers for various target groups, such as children and teenagers suffering from ADHD, depression and autism.

Thanks to many vivid examples llamas and alpacas become alive in front of the reader’s eyes, they also turn this book into a well-made introduction into educational work with these animals.

Target readership
Students of mentally handicapped education, students of special and inclusion education, students in the field of extra-curricular education interested in working with llamas and alpacas, Llama- and Alpaka-Farmers interested in providing pedagogical or recreational activities (Llama-Trekking, Llama-Tours)

Author information
Cosima Boyle, graduate pedagogue, works in the field of children and youth work in the district of Gifhorn, Germany, and offers animal assisted pedagogics with llamas and alpacas on her farm in the Altmark region.
Donkeys help healing

- Information on the donkey and its abilities
- Tips on husbandry, training and use of donkeys
- Test: Are donkeys the right choice for the set objectives?

Donkeys are totally on trend! Their likeable appearance and calm exterior have a soothing effect on people, with the result that increasing demand exists for their services in animal-assisted activities. This compendium of all things „donkey“ conveys the basics - why which animal (breed, size, age, sex) is particularly suited to which target groups - and also where the limitations lie.

In addition to the various ways in which donkeys can be used in animal assisted interventions, legal questions are clarified and case studies illustrated with numerous photos effectively visualise the practical work. Here, the author imparts her knowledge, developed in the course of many years’ experience of working with donkeys, as she directs readers’ attention to the donkey’s diverse talents, of which most practitioners in the field of animal assisted therapy were perhaps unaware.

Author information
Judith Schmidt, Burg-Reuland, Belgium, animal trainer, leads seminars on donkey assisted therapy, advises institutions and holds lectures on the use of donkeys in animal assisted interventions across Europe.
These playing cards are a collection of 140 games and exercises for dog-assisted education and therapy. The games are ideal for children between the age of three and twelve.

The games are sorted by promotion fields and are colour-coded. They provide many possibilities to integrate the dog into educational practice at school, children day-care centres and at special educational as well as therapeutic institutions and the like. This way children learn about the dog’s needs in individual exercises, small group exercises and circle games. Furthermore, the dog acts as a motivator, e.g. the promotion of social-emotional, mathematical or motor competences. Thanks to the handy card format the games can easily be selected and brought before class.

Target readership
Remedial, social and early childhood teachers, educators, teachers as well as therapists who wish to deploy dogs in their work with children between the age of three and twelve years

Author information
are all trained in dog assisted education and therapy and work with their own school and therapy companion dogs.

Michael Baumgartner, Haan, Germany, is a special play and remedial teacher for psychotherapy running his own practice.

Petra Koch is a primary school teacher and is head of AC School Dog Cologne / Düsseldorf, Germany.

Souris Reiter is a social worker in Haan, Germany.

Silvia Thielen, Kürten, Germany, is a teacher for primary and secondary schools.
Schools need dogs

- Well-founded background information for a continuously growing practice
- What’s the additional benefit of a school dog?
- Suggestions and ideas for deploying dogs at all school types

School dogs are becoming more and more popular and can be found at a constantly growing number of schools. But why does it make sense to take a dog to school with you? What does the perfect school dog look like and what are the things teachers and pedagogues should pay special attention to?

The author provides answers to these and other questions on the basis of a solid scientific background. Among other things, she presents an explanation model regarding why and how the deployment of dogs at schools can have a positive impact on educational processes.

By providing more information on dog training and dog handling, legal basics and other topics, the book becomes an indispensable reference work for all who wish to deploy dogs at schools.

Target readership
Teachers, educators and (social) pedagogues in training and at work, who wish to deploy dogs at school, people in charge at schools

Author information
Dr. Andrea Beetz, degree in psychology, teaches and does research e.g. on human-animal relationships at Rostock University, Germany.
Beastly good listeners

- What exactly is the effect a dog has during a reading programme?
- Many vivid examples
- Focused on practical work

Some children have particularly great difficulties when it comes to learning how to read. Dogs can be a valuable in motivation, calmness support, concentration enhancement and create fun while reading.

The authors present various approaches of “reading with dogs” and explain, apart from basics on reading competence, the indicators and background of these positive effects. They go into details with the pedagogical preconditions of dogs, educational professionals, children and surroundings. Vivid examples give an insight into real-life work with dog assisted reading programmes.

Target readership
Teachers, (social) pedagogues on the job and during training, who wish to deploy dogs with reading programmes

Author information
Dr. Andrea Beetz, degree in psychology, teaches and does research e.g. on human-animal relationships at Rostock University, Germany.
Meike Heyer, M.Ed., has studied special pedagogics and is a specialist on the deployment of dogs at schools in Germany.
Canine companions

- Instructions on planning and carrying out projects
- Provides work aids, check lists and training possibilities
- For all areas of work with children and teenagers

In the field of social work, the deployment of accompanying dogs can support the development of a personality of children and teenagers and stimulate important learning processes. But when do dog assisted measures make sense from a pedagogical point of view? What are the personal, institutional, organisational and legal preconditions that need to be clarified first? And which training and further education options are out there?

The answers are provided vibrantly and clearly by the author concerning these and other questions. She shows opportunities and restrictions of social work with dogs, describes numerous deployment options in the major fields of social pedagogic work and provides hands-on instructions on how to plan and carry out projects.

Martina Kirchpfening is a social worker and managing director of Kreisjugendring (Regional Council of Youth Groups) Freyung-Grafenau, Germany. She has trained two dogs herself for deployment in the field of social work.

Target readership
Social pedagogues, social workers and educators who want to deploy dogs at work.
Dogs support healing

- Basic knowledge about dog assisted interventions
- Practical tips for dog trainers and therapists

Dog assisted therapy is becoming more and more popular, and the number of therapists who wish to integrate their dogs into their therapeutic work is growing. But why does it make sense to deploy a dog in therapy? What are the preconditions humans and dogs have to meet? What are the characteristics the ideal therapy dog needs to have, and what is it that therapists should focus their attention on?

The authors explain the current state of dog assisted therapy, in a scientifically well-founded manner as well as oriented towards practical deployment. They describe why the use of dogs in therapy can have a positive impact on therapeutic processes. This book is fundamental for all those who wish to deploy dogs in therapy.

Target readership
Social pedagogues, social workers and educators who want to deploy dogs at work

Author information
Dr. phil. Rainer Wohlfarth is head psychologist at Max Grundig Hospital, manages the Ani.Motion Institute for Animal Assisted Therapy at Anima Tierwelt in Sasbachwalden, Germany, and is president of the European Society for Animal Assisted Therapy (ESAAT).

Bettina Mutschler, Sasbachwalden, is a dog education consultant (education based dog training), Natural Dogmanship Instructor, coach and lecturer for animal assisted therapy in theory and practice.
Indispensable for Hippotherapists

- Evidence-based
- Comprehensive and clear delineation of foundations and practice
- Food for thought for clinicians

Dorothée Debuse’s and co-authors’ delineation of contemporary hippotherapy is both evidence-based and relevant to hands-on clinical practice. The “foundations” section offers important background information on health and rehabilitation, the effects and mechanisms of hippotherapy, as well as equipment and environment. The “practice” section includes examination, goal setting, the role of the therapist and possible approaches with clients with different health problems, as well as the transition to (other forms of therapeutic) riding.

A highly evidence-based book, for both newcomers and experienced hippotherapists and physicians, which offers much food for thought for clinical practice.

Author information
Dorothée Debuse, PhD, is a hippotherapy practitioner and researcher, internationally active as a teacher and author, and teaches physiotherapy at Northumbria University, UK. She is also a regular peer-reviewer of hippotherapy-related and other publications.
Curative riding

This book is mandatory for all those dealing with deploying horses in the fields of pedagogics, therapeutic pedagogics and rehabilitation.

New in the 7th edition are chapters on further developing therapeutic pedagogical riding and vaulting, on a current project from the field of youth work as well as therapeutic pedagogical deployment of donkeys and on driving.

Author information

Marianne Gäng, graduate social pedagogue, is founder of the Schweizer Gruppe Therapeutisches Reiten (SG-TR; Swiss Group Therapeutic Riding) and manager of the COLLEGIUM for training at SG-TR.

Riding experiences for everybody

One can no longer imagine working with children and adolescents without including experiential pedagogy. This book encourages the incorporation of horse riding into this work and offers an abundance of projects and ideas.

The authors are riding pedagogues and therapists who ride and their projects are exciting — sometimes serious, sometimes playful, always within a pedagogic framework or with therapeutic goals. The necessary conditions, goals, possibilities and limits of experiential pedagogy using horses are clarified.

This book is a treasure trove for all those who use horses in experiential pedagogy or are planning to do so.

Target readership

All those who (wish to) work in the field of therapeutic pedagogical stimulation with horses
Creating trust with horses

- Scientifically substantiated trauma therapy with horses
- Diagnosis, planning and implementation
- Includes information on limitations and risks

With a basis in scientifically substantiated trauma-therapeutic concepts and the current state of research on equine assisted work, methods, prerequisites and limitations and risks are vividly described. The authors use the case study of 16-year-old Hannah and Tamino, her therapy horse, to provide insights into the workings of equine assisted trauma therapy. Which quality assurance measures are available? Which therapeutic qualifications are important? And how can the selection, training and care of the therapy horse be carried out successfully?

The book provides an overview of the effects and implementation of equine assisted interventions in trauma therapy, thus establishing a basis for the advancement of this therapeutic field.

Target readership
Psychotherapists and specialists active in the field of equine assisted therapy who perform therapeutic work with traumatised children, adolescents and adults.

Author information
Dr. Karin Hediger, psychologist specialising in psychotherapy and riding therapist (Swiss Group for Therapeutic Riding, SG-TR), works as a psychotherapist at the Psychotherapy Institute at the University of Basel, Switzerland, and at the REHAB Clinic Basel.

Roswitha Zink, Mag., riding therapist and horse trainer (Austrian Board of Therapeutic Riding (ÖKTHR), Austrian Equine Sports Association (ÖPS), works for the e.motion association at the Institute of Social Medicine at the Otto Wagner Clinic and at the Lichtblickhof Children’s Centre in Vienna, Austria, in the field of equine assisted therapy with children and adolescents.
Fun and games with horses

- Compilation of games and exercises
- With over 100 ideas and suggestions
- Includes templates for copying or printing

Riding on a magic horse through the woods in the guise of a fairy, or facing one’s adversaries as a knight on his proud steed – the numerous riding, vaulting and leading exercises and games, including detailed descriptions, ensure that some children’s dreams will come true. The games and exercises are designed for children of various age groups in the fields of both leisure and therapeutic education.

In the process, the emphasis is placed on the mindful and respectful handling of the horses involved. Lovingly designed downloadable certificates and passports continue to remind the children of their unforgettable experiences with the horses after the event.

This compilation of games and exercises guarantees that the children, their supervisors and the horses will never get bored!

Target readership
Psychotherapists and specialists active in the field of equine assisted therapy who perform therapeutic work with traumatised children, adolescents and adults

Author information
Hildegard Kiehne, Thale, Germany, state-certified child care worker with an additional qualification as a riding therapist in the field of therapeutic education, has been working at an alternative school in the Harz region, Germany, since 2001, where she follows an animal assisted approach.