The Big Idea!
As you can see, there are MANY career paths in veterinary medicine that involve more than just working directly with animals.

With this in mind, you can use a veterinary medicine degree to solve problems related to animal and human health in a variety of different fields.

A Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree opens a lot of doors, and the career opportunities are diverse and limitless.
WHAT IS A VETERINARIAN?

A veterinarian is a doctor that promotes the health and wellbeing of animals and people. Veterinarians examine all sorts of animals like cats, dogs, horses, cattle, pigs, and many more! A veterinarian is responsible for diagnosing and treating injuries, disease, and illness in their patients. They also give vaccinations to animals to provide preventative care and reduce the risk of disease. Veterinarians create a positive impact on animal and human health in a variety of ways by participating in research, drug development, and laboratory testing. They keep our food supply safe, maintain standards for animal welfare and help prevent the spread of disease from animals to people. No matter where they work, all veterinarians are problem solvers working to improve and protect the overall health and wellbeing of animals. Veterinarians are important for keeping us and our animals healthy and safe!

What animals do they work with?

- Small animal veterinarians work on dogs and cats.
- Large animal veterinarians work with horses (equine), ruminants (which include cattle, sheep, goats, alpaca and llamas) and swine (pigs).
- Mixed animal veterinarians take care of both small and large animals.
- Exotic animal veterinarians take care of small mammals, birds, and reptiles. They can work in zoo or wildlife sanctuaries, or shelters.

What other career paths are there?

Veterinarians can still use their degree to advance animal and human health without working in a clinic. Below are just a few ways that veterinarians are helping us everyday.

- Veterinarians work in academia to perform research and teach the next generation of veterinarians.
- There are even jobs for veterinarians in the U.S. Army and Air Force.
- Many industry jobs are available for veterinarians in the area of research and development.
- Veterinarians can work for pet food companies as sales representatives and consultants.
- Veterinarians are critical in public health and regulatory medicine. Many of these veterinarians are employed by the government to help prevent the spread of disease and keep our food supply safe.
- Veterinarians may work in a private practice, corporation or non-profit organizations.