

Although no textbook can include every bit of information relevant to the education of veterinary technicians (eg, in this book, there is no discussion of demodicosis in cats and information regarding zoonotic diseases is limited), this book comes close. Students and new graduates alike will find a wealth of reference material for learning clinical procedures (> 80 clinical procedures are detailed step-by-step) and developing essential skills and knowledge. Generous use of illustrations, diagrams, and color photographs promotes understanding of skills. This book is worth the investment to have as a handy reference on a broad range of pertinent topics.

**Reviewed by Brenda R. Woodard, DVM**  
**Northwestern State University**  
**Natchitoches, La**

## Assessing Essential Skills of Veterinary Technology Students (3rd edition)

**Laurie J. Buell, MS, LVT; Lisa E. Schenkel, DVM; & Sabrina Timperman, DVM**

*81 pages. 2017. Wiley Blackwell.*  
*ISBN 978-1-119-04211-2. Price \$49.99.*

Of the many challenges facing veterinary technology program educators, one of the most substantial is the teaching and assessment of over 200 essential skills from the AVMA's Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA). The editors of the third edition of *Assessing Essential Skills of Veterinary Technology Students* have taken the 2016 CVTEA skills list and broken each skill into the standard criteria for teaching and assessment by veterinary technology program faculty.

For faculty, this textbook will be very helpful when establishing or revising skills within the curriculum. The standard criteria or learning outcomes are presented in a logical, thorough, thoughtful, and learner-centered fashion. Both the knowledge and decision-making abilities needed for successful mastery are provided for each required skill. For example, the CVTEA essential skill of "remove sutures in a safe and correct manner" lists 5 knowledge-based decision-making abilities for suture removal. Although this skill may seem simplistic, the editors have broken it down in a logical stepwise manner. This thorough breakdown helps both students and faculty when covering all essential skills.

To meet accreditation guidelines, each accredited veterinary technology program has the respon-

sibility to demonstrate and track the completion of each required skill by every student. The text is accompanied by an online list of skills with standard measurement criteria. This resource can be used by faculty or students to document the student's satisfactory completion of each skill, including dates of completion and faculty signatures.

Our long-standing veterinary technology program has just gone through a curriculum revision. We found this textbook very helpful as a guide to remind us of the steps, knowledge, and decision-making abilities needed for each essential skill.

**Reviewed by Allen R. Balay, DVM**  
**Ridgewater College**  
**Willmar, Minn**

### BOOKS FOR CLIENTS

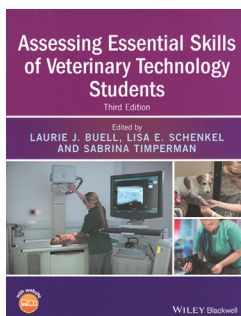
## Rosie the Pig

**Rebekah Hartfield, DVM**

*36 pages. 2017. Workman by Design.*  
*ISBN 978-1-64008-713-2. Price \$14.99.*

*Rosie the Pig* is a wonderfully illustrated and engaging children's book about a pig that becomes ill. Rosie makes a full recovery and is running around by the end of the book. I would have preferred that Dr. H, Rosie's veterinarian, examined Rosie before making a diagnosis and prescribing medication. Instead, Dr. H tells Abby, the presumed owner of Rosie, to grab her vet pack and do an examination while she waits for Dr. H to arrive. I got over this quickly because as written, the book empowers readers by depicting a child using medical instruments to perform an examination and identify problems. Engagement with readers is skillfully reinforced through short quizzes in which readers must identify instruments and their uses. Thoughtful contents include description of the pronunciation and function of each tool in Abby's vet bag. Pronunciation and explanation of the diagnosis and treatment are also included. The injection site for administration of Rosie's prescribed treatment was accurately portrayed; however, the location for checking body temperature was altered, I imagine, to avoid an awkward conversation.

Delightful details include an inspiring dedication and a nameplate where a child can claim ownership of the book and declare his or her intent to become a veterinarian. The content is more advanced than a board book but less advanced than a chapter book. The book sports library binding and nice, thick pages that can be easily grabbed, but not easily wrinkled or torn by small active hands. *Rosie the Pig* will be a great addition to clinic waiting rooms or home book collections. This book is part of a series, and I look



forward to Dr. Hartfield's next book when we will meet Pistol the horse.

**Reviewed by Sandra San Miguel, DVM, PhD, DABVP**  
**Purdue University**  
**West Lafayette, Ind**

## Dachshunds Get Diabetes, Too!

**Sandra San Miguel, DVM, PhD**

24 pages. 2016. Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine. ISBN 978-1-62671-068-9. \$10.00.

## Donkeys Need Dentists, Too!

**Sandra San Miguel, DVM, PhD**

24 pages. 2016. Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine. ISBN 978-1-62671-070-2. \$10.00.

## Elephants Need Eye Doctors, Too!

**Sandra San Miguel, DVM, PhD & Wendy Townsend, DVM, MS, DACVO**

24 pages. 2016. Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine. ISBN 978-1-62671-071-9. \$10.00.

## Macaws Need Medicines, Too!

**Amy Wackerly, BS; Ann Mennonno, MS; Sandra San Miguel, DVM, PhD; & C. A. Nobens**

24 pages. 2016. Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine. ISBN 978-1-62671-069-6. \$10.00.

This series of 4 stand-alone educational children's books presents a whimsical introduction to the many facets of veterinary medicine. The authors are to be applauded for their one health perspective; they highlight unique comparisons between human and veterinary medicine through a diversity of animal species as well as a diversity of veterinarians to

demonstrate key points. For example, *Elephants Need Eye Doctors, Too!* provides an easy-to-follow compare-and-contrast depiction of human and canine eye examinations. The illustrations complement the text and, in many cases, clarify concepts that may be a bit challenging for early readers. Consider the description of color vision: the illustrator beautifully demonstrates how a person sees the world as compared with a bird or a bee. Another exceptionally strong and unique aspect of this series is that it features complete Spanish translations. This broadens the pool of readers who can benefit from an introduction to the veterinary profession. My primary concern with the series is that, at times, I felt there was a mismatch between the level of detail provided and the anticipated age of the intended readers. The illustrations are suggestive of early-reader (4 to 6 years old) picture books, but some of the text may challenge even 8- to 10-year-old readers. In particular, *Dachshunds Get Diabetes, Too!* and *Macaws Need Medicines, Too!* get bogged down by medical

details that may overwhelm the intended audience. For example, there is a detailed section on SID-BID-TID-QID dosing, and 3 paragraphs/page may lose early readers who are interested in an overview but not necessarily depth. I would like to see this series expanded into age-appropriate tracks rather than a one-size-fits all approach because I believe these authors have the potential to create an exceptional educational market if they refine their approach.

**Reviewed by Ryane E. Englar, DVM, DABVP**  
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