



I am beautiful on the inside.



New IAMS with PreBiotics. For strong defenses.

Life's Better on IAMS

our*pets



home alone

Sure, they sleep a lot, but pets can also get lonely during a long stretch without any human interaction, notes Colleen Paige, animal behaviorist and editor-in-chief of *Pet Home Magazine*. How your pet will respond to alone time also depends on his personality. **Cats tend to be more independent, while dogs are generally very social and experience more separation anxiety,** Paige says. If you need to leave your pet alone frequently due to work or school, you may want to provide him with a combination of things that will keep him busy. Consider a Pet Sitter DVD (from \$14.95 to \$34.95 for a three-volume set; petsittervideos.com). Specific DVDs in the collection are designed to entertain dogs, cats, and birds, and feature other animals playing outdoors, such as butterflies, squirrels, mice, and fish, as well as their own species. More pet entertainment ideas: Paige recommends an interactive toy your pet can play with on his own, such as the Ba-Da-Beam Rotating Laser Toy for cats (\$15.99; cattoys.com) or a Tricky Treat Ball (\$13.99; amazon.com) that gradually dispenses pet snacks as your critter frolics with it. Access to a window seat where your dog or cat can watch the world pass by helps, too (just make sure the window is securely closed, so your furry friend doesn't get hurt). —Teresa Tobat

WHICH CREEPY PET DO YOU LEAST WANT TO LIVE WITH?

- 70%** snake
- 13%** ferret
- 6%** iguana
- 5%** hamster/gerbil/guinea pig



—Parenting.com poll