

**Gayle Phelps
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1978 – Present: I have worked full-time as an animal trainer at the facility of Steve Martin’s Working Wildlife since 1978. My duties include raising baby exotic & domestic animals, diet preparation & feeding, cleaning & maintenance of pens & cages, exercising, socializing & training of all types of animals, assisting the veterinarian & treating ill or injured animals when indicated.

My experience extends to several species of animals including large exotic cats, bears, exotic hoof stock, birds, wolves, coyotes, foxes, raccoons and skunks. As a trainer, I teach specific behaviors to animals, such as walking on a leash, come when called, stay on a mark, etc. I take the animals to film sets and work with them, displaying their learned behaviors before a camera. I have countless hours doing this, as I have been working as a trainer for twenty-seven years. I have worked wolves on several movies, television shows, and still photography shoots, such as, “Dances with Wolves,” “Call of the Wild,” “Down the Long Hills,” “Deadwood,” “Passions,” “Carnivale,” “Big Love,” hundreds of commercials and much more. I have worked with eight different foxes, including the three I want to transfer to me, on several projects over the years, including movies and television shows such as “Homeward Bound,” “Full House,” “Mr. Ed,” and many commercials and still photography shoots. My experience with raccoons extends to exhibiting them on film sets, which I have done consistently for twenty-seven years. My credits for raccoon work include, “La Z Boy” furniture ads, “Wendy’s Hamburgers,” “Homeward Bound,” “Malcolm in the Middle,” “Where the Red Fern Grows” and countless other commercial work. I have trained skunks at Working Wildlife for several years and have worked them extensively on film sets over the years. The coyotes I have trained have worked with me on many film and television projects such as “Heartbeeps,” “Weeds,” “Desert Heat,” “Collateral” and many commercials. In addition I have worked for the past 11 years as a freelance Animal trainer, exhibiting animals for several animal rental companies.