Back in Black
Photographing black animals “cheat sheet”

1. Try to capture the animal’s personality. Make sure the animal’s essence shines through.
2. Eye contact is very important, so try to get the animal looking directly at the camera. One way to do that is to squeak or shake a toy to get the animal’s attention.
3. Make sure there is light shining into the animal’s eyes.
4. Photograph the animal in the shade or on a cloudy day for best results. If you have to shoot in the sunlight, do it either in early morning or right before sunset.
5. If you have to use your on-camera flash, diffuse the harsh light with a piece of paper.
6. Use color: Make the background a colorful towel, green grass or a pretty wall.
7. Get creative and use fun props (a snazzy collar, a colorful bandana) to further accentuate the animal and make him stand out.
8. Remember, these are animals, so be patient with them. It takes a while to get the winning shot.
9. Make it fun for the animal and you’ll have fun, too.