Assuming the XML is in a similar format as the dog data XML file (as shown), you can use similar logic to retrieve the information.

The array created using the json_decode method is in a similar format to the array created from the dog_data XML file. It requires two foreach loops, one to loop through the "users" array, and the other to loop through the "user" arrays. The in_array method can then be used to determine if the user ID exists in the user array. If it does, the password is compared to the hashed password using the PHP method password_verify. This method uses the first part of the hashed password to retrieve the information on the encryption technique and the salt value. The salt value is an automatically generated value that is used to produce the hashed password. If the passwords match, the user ID and hashed password (\$hash) are saved as session variables. The main program is then called (see Example 7-1).

■ **Note** In PHP 5.5, you could adjust the salt value. In PHP 7, this option was depreciated as it was deemed an unnecessary use of system resources.

Example 7-2. The login.phpfile with XML user ID/password verification