



Kindergarten Resource Kit

Let's Learn About Cats and Dogs

Lesson Script

Goal

The students will learn about responsible pet care and the needs of cats and dogs.

Duration

30-45 minutes

Today's topic

Today's topic is called: *Let's Learn about Cats and Dogs*. We are going to talk about how to keep a pet cat and dog happy and healthy.

Ottawa Humane Society questions

Prompt the children for answers and encourage their responses as necessary.

Has anybody heard of the Ottawa Humane Society?

Ask for a show of hands.

Has anybody been to the Ottawa Humane Society?

Ask for a show of hands.

What is a humane society?

A humane society is an organization where a group of people work together to help lost, sick, injured, neglected, abused or surrendered (given up) animals. It provides:

- temporary shelter and safe place to live (until their owners come to find them or they are adopted into new homes)
- food and water
- medical care
- kindness and affection

How many animals are brought to the Ottawa Humane Society each year?

Ask three participants to guess the number before you give the answer. Each year, approximately 11,000 animals are admitted to the shelter.

What animals are at the Ottawa Humane Society? (SHOW PHOTOS)

- cats (#1)
- dogs (#2)



Kindergarten Resource Kit

- rabbits
- guinea pigs
- birds
- degus
- hamsters
- gerbils
- rats/mice
- chinchillas

The Ottawa Humane Society has also received unusual animals! These animals would not go up for adoption, but would be placed in appropriate places.

- turkeys/chickens/ducks/geese
- snakes
- iguanas
- pot-bellied pigs

What do a pet cat and dog need to be happy and healthy?

Introduce the toy dog and toy cat to the group. Show the pictures to the group as each item is explained.

Food & Water

Food- How often should you feed a cat or dog? These pets should be fed twice a day (breakfast & dinner). They need dry food (crunchy) and wet food (soft). A kitten or puppy needs special food until he is finished growing.

Do you think this food would taste good? Not for a human! Only for a dog or a cat.

Water- Do cats and dogs drink apple juice? No! They need fresh water every day. Should a cat drink milk? Yes and no. A kitten needs his mother's milk until he is old enough to drink water. Don't let a cat drink cow's milk (that you buy at the store). Why? It can make a cat sick.

Bowls- Cats and dogs need a food and water bowl to eat and drink from. Bowls must be cleaned often. Do you like eating off a dirty plate? No! Neither do our pets!

Comfort & Grooming

Brush- You should brush a cat or dog once a week, or more! It keeps the fur healthy and feels good, too! Should you be rough or gentle? Gentle! Always brush the fur from the head down to the tail. That's the way it grows.



Kindergarten Resource Kit

Scratching post- Does a cat like to scratch things? Yes! That's how he sharpens his claws and stretches his muscles.

Blanket or bed - A cat or dog might like his own small blanket or bed to sleep in. Do you think a dog or cat would find the blanket soft to sleep on?

Toys

Toy- Is this small ball a good toy for a cat? Yes! Always make sure that a cat has a fun and safe toy to play with.

Ball- Does a dog like to play with a ball? Yes!

Activity break

What do cats like to do? Stretch! Let's stretch like cats. *Stretch hands over your head and encourage participants to do the same.*

What sounds do cats make? Let's meow like cats.

Clean-Up

Litter, litter box, scooper- Where does an indoor cat go to the bathroom? He uses a litter box. Do you use your bare hand to clean the litter box? No! You need a small shovel or scooper. Pick up the dirty litter and put it in a bag to throw out. How often should a litter box be cleaned? Every day. Cats are very clean animals!

Plastic bag - A dog owner always cleans up after his/her dog. Do you like stepping in dog poop? No!

Collar & Leash

Leash, collar, identification tag, licence tag- A cat or dog needs to wear an identification tag and licence tag on his collar or harness. Should a cat or dog go outside alone? No! They can get lost or injured!

Also ...

Exercise- A dog needs to be walked two times a day for exercise, play time and fresh air.

Veterinarian- Should a cat or dog visit the doctor? Yes! What's an animal doctor called? A veterinarian! Cats and dogs to see a veterinarian if he is sick or hurt and once a year for a check-up and vaccinations (shots) to keep him healthy.



Kindergarten Resource Kit

Love- What does a pet (or a person) need that money can't buy? Love. How can you show your pet love? You can pet or play with him.

Activity break

To finish things off we will move our bodies one more time! What do dogs do when they're wet? They shake! Let's shake like wet dogs! Shake your head, legs, arms, and body. What sounds do dogs make? Let's bark like dogs. Are you dry now? *Tell the children to sit on their bottoms.*

Questions?