

Basic Pet Care - Kindergarten

OBJECTIVE

To understand what pet (cat or dog) needs to be healthy and happy.

ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

Students will learn what a pet basic needs are by indentifying items that belong to them.

MATERIALS

- A large stuffed cat and dog
- A box containing the following items that should demonstrate proper pet care: Dog and cat collars with identification tags, brushes, bowls, cat and dog food, leashes, cat and dog toys, pet shampoo, pet toothpaste and toothbrushes, rawhide or treats, pet nail clipper and cat litter scoop. Also, small items such as a bead or earring to show how these items could cause choking. A grape, raisin, or chocolate bar could be used to explain about how some people food can be toxic to pets. NOTE: Be sure to have enough items for each student so that they can fully participate in the lesson.

DISCUSSION

- What kinds of things do you need in order to care for a pet?
- What do people need to do to take care of their pets?
- Why do people need to take care of their pets? Why can't pets take care of themselves?
- Wild animals can care for themselves. Why can't pets be like wild animals? How are they different?

LESSON

- Ask students to identify each of the stuffed animals.
- Ask if any students have a pet at home and if so, what kind. Some may not have a cat or dog. If they have another kind of pet, ask how they care for that pet.
- Remove an item at a time from the box and call on a student to identify it. Ask them to come up and demonstrate which animal would use it and how (the brush could be used to brush the pet, the collar could be place around the pet's neck, etc.).
- When choosing the items that could harm a pet, ask the children what they should do (throw away the food items, pick up the small items and give them to an adult).

POST DISCUSSION

- Ask the students have any of the items at home for their pet.
- Ask what are some of the things the students like to do to take care of their pet and some of the things they don't like (cleaning up the litter box, for example).
- What would happen if they didn't care for their pet?

ACTIVITY

Ask students to complete the attached Pet Care Matching Activity by using a pencil to match the correct pet care item to the pet who uses it. Review the answers when completed.

PET CARE MATCHING ACTIVITY

Draw a line to match the pet to their belonging.

