

Curriculum Links

Strand

Strand Unit

Science

Living Things

Plant and Animal Life

English

Oral Language; Writing

Developing cognitive abilities through language

SPHE

1. Myself
2. Myself & the Wider World

1. Growing and Changing; Making Decisions
2. Developing Citizenship

Learn Together

(Educate Together Schools)

1. Moral & Spiritual
2. Equality & Justice

1. Exploring Moral Development Cultivating Spiritual Growth
2. Activating Equality and Justice through positive Action

Content objectives:

- Children have a clear understanding of **Promise 2 A Home**
- Children will be enabled to make decisions on appropriate pets using home as the main criteria.

Resources:

- Dogs Trust Match A Dog Card Set
- Dogs Trust SPHE Booklet

Differentiation:

- Children draw their idea of a perfect house for a particular dog/pet.
- Children explore other pets, cats, rabbits etc. Investigating appropriate housing for each.
- Children design a poster to encourage others to think critically about their lifestyle and home situation before choosing a pet.

Learning objectives:

- Children understand that different animals have different needs.
- Children understand that different lifestyles will suit different animals.
- Children understand the need to choose an animal that suits your lifestyle.
- Children relate this back to **Promise 2 A Home**.

Assessment:

- Teacher questions/children's questions
- Written Task
- Teacher Observation of Interviews

Learning activities:



5th/6th Class

Lesson Plan 3

Introduction

- Begin the lesson by reminding the children about the 5 Promises. Briefly review what an animal's rights are.
- Discuss the human need for a home and our own personal space. Question the children on the reasons why having appropriate personal space is important.
- Discuss with the children how many pets like to sleep inside and why - warmth, comfort, close to their owner etc.
- Do pets automatically know how to live in a human home? How can we help them to live with us? How can we make training fun for them?
- Explain that as well as lifestyle, appropriate housing is also vital. Briefly brainstorm different types of houses, number of rooms, garden size etc.
- Choice of dog from Dogs Trust 'Match a Dog' card set.
- Class fills in the Choose Your Perfect Dog worksheet. (SPHE Booklet)
- Explain to the class that Dogs Trust need to take all of these things into consideration when re-homing as dog.

Development

- Distribute Dogs Trust Match A Dog card set. Ask the children to read out the information/description of each dog.
- Explain that dogs and animals in general need appropriate housing and space. Brainstorm the type of house and family we feel each dog would need giving reasons for your answers.
- Read out the information on each family. In pairs, ask the children to match the dogs up to the appropriate family, giving reasons why they have matched each pair.
- Ask the class to write down information about their own lifestyle in the form of a Daily Timetable e.g. 7am Wake Up, 8am Leave for school etc.
- Question the class on which dog they feel would be suited to their lifestyle. Would they have time to exercise the dog? Time for play?

Promise 2 - A home

I promise to: provide my pet with a suitable place to live.

- After discussing this Promise, instruct the class to put themselves into the role of a Dogs Trust worker. Have them interview their partner asking appropriate questions about their home and lifestyle. They then recommend a suitable dog from the list on Card Set 6.
- Time permitting, Class can play the online game Doggy Database, available at <http://www.learnwithdogs.ie/games/dogDataBase.htm>

Conclusion:

After the task, the class regroups. They briefly explain the reasons why they chose a particular dog for their partner.

