

Dog and Cat Activities!

Use the theme of family pets to motivate students into learning responsibility and the qualities of being loving and caring. This subject can also be used to inspire students with creative writing assignments and math exercises.

CAT AND DOG RULES

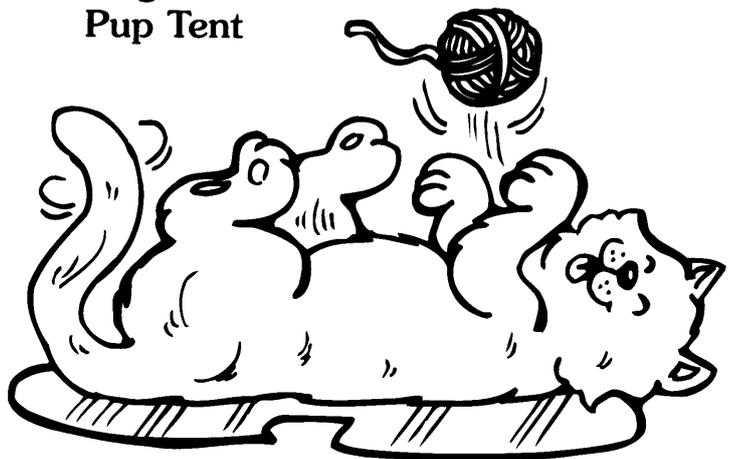
Cats and dogs deserve to be treated with patience, compassion and consideration for their needs. Ask your students to write a list of rules for caring for a family pet. The list may include some of the following:

1. Before bringing a pet home, make sure you have the time and ability to properly care for it.
2. Make sure that it has a dry, clean and quiet place to eat and sleep.
3. Make sure that it gets plenty of fresh water and a daily balanced diet.
4. Make sure your pet has proper veterinary care.
5. Teach your pet to be obedient. Reward your pet for good behavior. Never strike or hit your pet.
6. Make sure your pet's environment is safe. Pets should not be allowed to roam free and unsupervised.
7. Research and read about the special needs of your pet.
8. Love your pet. Make sure you spend time just loving your pet every day!

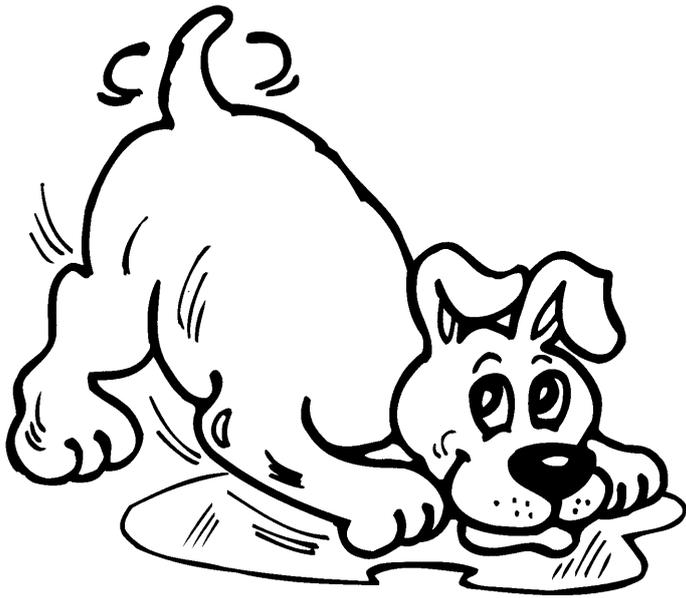
CANINE SAYINGS

List some of these familiar sayings or words on the class board and ask your students to write creative stories or simply explain what they think they mean. It may be fun for the students to illustrate the phrases.

It's Raining Cats and Dogs
Let Sleeping Dogs Lie
You Can't Teach an Old Dog New Tricks
It's a Dog's Life
Hot Diggity Dog
Dog Day Afternoon
Fighting Like Cats and Dogs
Dog Days of Summer
Under Dog
Dog Paddle
Three Dog Night
You're in the Dog House
Dog Tags
Puppy Love
Dog Gone It
Dog Tired
Dog Eared
Pup Tent



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DOGGIE BONES

Use a doggie bone pattern to teach alphabetical skills. Make several copies of bones from heavy white paper. Write one word you wish the student to alphabetize on each bone. Keep the bones in an empty dog biscuit box. Children can take all of the bones from the box and arrange them in alphabetical order.

You can also use doggie bone patterns to motivate creative writing assignments. Try some of these ideas:

- The Dog That Loved Cats
- How to Wash a Hundred Pound Dog
- The Coward Watchdog
- The Biggest Dog in the World
- The Smallest Dog in the World
- The Day My Dog Came to School
- The Dog Whot Ate Too Many Dog Biscuits
- The Dog That Chased Cars
- The Dog That Couldn't Bark
- The Dog Who Was Afraid of Cats

CAT AND DOG GRAPHS

Students will enjoy this math activity that involves their family pets.

Instruct students to survey the members of their class and ask which children have one or more cats and dogs as pets. Have them record the color of each cat or dog whether it's male or female, color of eyes, long hair or short hair, etc.

On the class chalkboard, have students graph their findings. What is the most common color of the animals? Are there more males or females? What percentage wears collars? How many have green eyes?

Students will enjoy recording these interesting statistics and at the same time will learn about percentages and averages.

DOG BISCUIT RECIPE

National Dog Week is usually the first week in September. Celebrate by having your students make dog biscuits to take home and give to their family canine!

- 2 cups biscuit mix
- 1/2 cup corn meal
- 1/4 cup vegetable shortening
- 1/3 cup grated yellow cheese
- 2/3 cup milk

Preheat the oven to 400°. Mix the biscuit mix and corn meal together. Add the shortening and cheese. Stir in the milk, mixing all ingredients together. Roll the dough onto a floured board and cut into small squares or use a cookie cutter. Place on a greased cookie sheet and bake about 15 minutes.