



Picture News

In the Early Years

Speaking and Listening

EYFS Framework: Children are confident to speak in a familiar group. They show care and concern for living things. Children know about similarities and differences in relation to living things.

Look at the Picture News poster: What can you see? What do you think is happening? What do you like about this picture? Tell the children the lady in the picture is washing the dog. She works for a dog charity.

Think about: What is a dog charity? What do you think people who work for a dog charity do? Discuss how a dog charity looks after dogs that are found on their own on the streets or are given to them because their owners can't look after them anymore. The people at the dog charity take care of them and help them to find a new forever loving home.

When we had the first Coronavirus lockdown, lots of people decided to get a new pet because so many people were at home. It's in the news that some of the people that work for dog and other pet charities are now worried that lots of people who got new pets decided they can't look after them anymore so they will have lots and lots of new pets to look after and find new homes for.

Think about: Do you have a pet at home, or do you know someone who has? What kind of pet is it?

Question: How do we care for a pet?

Before people buy a pet, they must think carefully about what care that pet would need. Some pets need more of our time than others. Look at the **EY Resource**, which shows some of the different pets people might have.

Think about: How would you look after each of these pets properly? What do they need? How would you make them happy? What do you think they enjoy doing? Which animal do you think needs the most care? Why?

Dog Rescue Centre Role-play: Can you help to care for the dogs at the rescue centre and help them to find new loving homes?

EYFS Framework: Uses language to recreate roles and experiences in play situations.

Think about: What jobs do you need to do today in the rescue centre? Can you show me around your dogs? I need a dog that also likes cats because I have a cat at home. Do you have any dogs that get on well with cats? What is this dog like? What does s/he enjoy doing? How much exercise do you think s/he will need? What will I need to buy to help me look after this dog?

Resources: Soft toy dogs, dog beds, collars, food bowls, pet brushes, key vocabulary cards, care instruction proforma (see EY Additional Resource 1), pens, clipboards

Writing: Can you write a leaflet to let new pet owners know how to care for a pet properly?

EYFS Framework: Gives meaning to marks they make as they draw, write and paint. Uses some clearly identifiable letters to communicate meaning, representing some sounds correctly and in sequence.

Discuss that when a pet owner takes on a new pet, the rescue centre or the current pet owner needs to make sure the pet is going to be properly cared for. They often give out a leaflet to let them know all about their new pet and what it will need to be properly cared for.

Think about: What is the pet's name? What kind of pet is it? What will it need? What kind of food does it have? What will it need to sleep in? What will the pet enjoy doing? Will it need to go for walks? Will it get dirty? Is there anything else you need to tell the new owner about?

Resources: Drawing and writing proforma (See EY Additional Resource 1), pens, clipboards

Phonics: Can you match each pet picture to its initial sound?

EYFS Framework: Hears and says the initial sound in words.

Think about: What pets can you see? What is the first sound you hear when you say the word cat? Can you find the correct letter or write it under the picture? Can you find the initial sound of each of these pets? Do any of the pets have the same first sound? Which? For those children who are ready: Can you stretch the word cat to hear any more sounds? What other sounds can you hear? Can you say the sounds back to see if that now says the word cat?

Resources: Laminated pet picture cards (see EY Additional Resource 2), whiteboard pens and rubbers or plastic letters

Sensory Play: Can you wash the dogs who have been playing in the mud?

EYFS Framework: Uses talk to organise, sequence and clarify thinking, ideas, feelings and events.

Discuss how dogs often enjoy rolling and playing in the mud so can often need a bath.

Think about: Can you clean the muddy dogs? I wonder if the dog will want to have a bath! How can you get all the mud off them? What do dogs often do when they come out of the water? How can we dry the dogs?

Resources: 2 water trays, one with muddy water and the other clean soapy water, plastic dog toys, tea towels, sponges