



whatcom county
library system

Preschool Theme Kits

PETS



FOR YOU: a copy of these activities
is available in back of this notebook.

BOX CONTENTS

BOOKS

Whistle for Willie

Ezra Jack Keats

My Cats Nick and Nora

Isabelle Harper

My Pet Hamster

Anne Rockwell

Six-Dinner Sid

Inga Moore

What Pet to Get?

Emma Dodd

Pet Show! (Book with CD)

Ezra Jack Keats

Kitten

Angela Royston

Our New Puppy

Isabelle Harper

Fiddle I Fee

Melissa Sweet

DVD

Arthur's Pet Business

TOY

Pets Peg Puzzle

ADULT RESOURCES

**The Ultimate Encyclopedia of
Small Pets and Petcare**

David Alderton

ACTIVITY NOTEBOOK

BEYOND THE KITS - STORYTIME HANDBOOK

Welcome to the *Pets* Theme Kit. Our target age group is 2 to 5 year olds but we have included at least one board book for babies to use. All these books read aloud well, and there are activities, finger plays, and teacher guides to help you. Also, take a look at the general information sheet on the inside cover of this notebook. ENJOY!

Related Activities

-Fun and Games-

FAMILY PET SURVEY *

Hang up a large sheet of paper and have your markers close at hand. In a group or individually, ask the children if they have pets at home. Be aware of those who may not and ask if they have stuffed animals. Chart how many pets there are in each category. You may want to make simple categories like cat, dog, feathered, fur; or more thought-provoking ones like larger-than-a-sink and smaller-than-a-shoe box. A good math activity is to make a simple graph showing all the different types of groups you can create.

PETS ON PARADE! **

Have children bring in photos of themselves with their pets. Invite each of them to share a story about their pet with the group. If some children don't have a pet, talk about what type of pet they would like to have. Children can draw pictures of their pet(s) and wished-for pets, if photos aren't available.

DOGGIE, DOGGIE WHERE IS YOUR BONE? *

You can use a dog (rawhide) bone or a wooden block for the dog's bone. Have the children sit in a circle with a chair in the middle. Put the bone under the chair. One child is chosen to sit in the middle as the 'doggie' and closes his/her eyes. A child from the circle sneaks up and takes the bone. Children call "Doggie, doggie, where's your bone? Someone stole it from your home!" The "dog" guesses until s/he finds who has the bone.

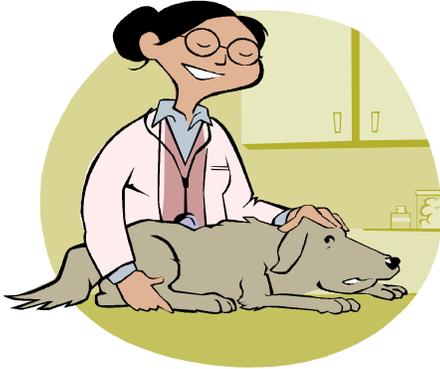


**Activities courtesy of the Early Childhood Office of the Seattle Public Library.*

***Used with permission from King County Library System.*

HANDLE WITH CARE **

Invite a veterinarian or animal shelter employee to visit. Ask your visitor to talk about proper (and improper) pet care, including how to carry, feed, and provide shelter for different animals.



CREATIVE PLAY

Children can pretend they have their own Pet Shop or veterinary clinic. Use stuffed animals and let children give useful “advice” for proper pet care. The excellent teacher resource **The Ultimate Encyclopedia of Small Pets and Petcare** will give you and your children many good facts about pet care.

GUESS WHAT'S MISSING?

Put five or six puzzle pieces from this kit on a tray or in a box lid. Talk about the different animals. Then have the children hide their eyes and take away one of the pieces. Guess what's missing!

PETS *

Suit actions to words.

Hop, hop, hop like your bunny.
Run, run, run like your dog.
Walk, walk, walk like your cat
Jump, jump, jump like your frog.
Swim, swim, swim like your fish
Fly, fly, fly like your bird.
Then sit right down and
Don't say a word.

Pets Theme Kit

Questions or Suggestions:

Call the Youth Services Dept.
at (360) 384-3150

-Fingerplays and Action Rhymes-

I HAD A LITTLE TURTLE

I had a little turtle
He lived in a box
He swam in a puddle
He climbed on the rocks
He snapped at a mosquito,
He snapped at a flea,
He snapped at a minnow and he
snapped at me.
He caught the mosquito,
He caught the flea.
He caught the minnow,
But he didn't catch me!

*Make a fist with thumb sticking out
Cup hands together for box.
Wiggle hand for swimming
Fingers climb up other fist.
Snap fingers with each “snap”*

Clap, gulp, for each “caught”.

Wag index finger back and forth.

KITTY KITTY

Kitty, kitty, kitty
All my little ones so pretty
You, and you, and you.
Let me hear how you can meow
Meow, Meow, Meow
Kitty, Kitty, Kitty,
All my little ones so pretty.
Curl up close now just like that,
Sleep 'til someone calls out “SCAT”!

Motion to the children ‘come here’

Point to the children

Children meow

*Rest head on hands
Open eyes, fling hands!*

PUPPY AND KITTY

Here is a little puppy
Here is a kitty-cat
Puppy goes to sleep
Curled upon his mat.
Kitty creeps up softly
Tickles puppy's chin.
Puppy wakes up quickly.
See the chase begin!

*Hold up left fist.
Hold up right fist.
Curl up left fist, toward you.*

*Creep right hand toward left.
Tickle!
Lift left fist, circle fists round and round
each other.*



TEN LITTLE KITTENS (Hamsters, goldfish, puppies, etc.)

Ten little kittens standing in a row
When they see the children,
They bow just so.
They march to the left
And they march to the right.
They close their eyes and they
Say goodnight!

Hold hands up fingers apart

*Flop fingers down.
Hands to the left
Hands to the right*

Make fists.

How You Can Help

- Use and return kits promptly so that they are available for others.
- Please check box contents before returning.
- Do not use the book drop. Please return kits inside an open library.