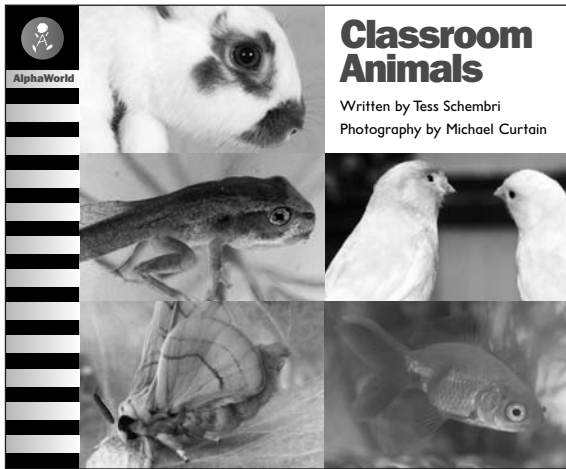


Classroom Animals



Topic: School and community

Curriculum link: Living Things; Society and Environment

Text type: Instructional

Reading level: 11

Word count: 328

High-frequency words: you, how, to, look, them, they, what, eat, about

Vocabulary: classroom, animals, tadpoles, frogs, fish, rabbits, canaries, silkworms, plants, insects, tank, bowl, flakes, cage, vegetables, pellets, hay, perch, shoe box, mulberry, leaves

Possible literacy focus:

Understanding written instructions.

Learning to understand, read and write written imperatives.

Follow-up activities

Innovating on the text

Ask each child to choose an animal that they have had experience in looking after. Ask them to write a list of what needs to be done to look after that animal. Encourage them to use action verbs. They can also illustrate their writing and their work can be compiled into a class book called "How to look after a pet".

Most popular pet

Ask the children to pick an animal from the book that they would most like to have in their classroom. On a piece of paper, have children write the name of this animal and their reason for choosing it. Collate the responses, tally them and write up the data for the children to see. For example:

Animal	Number of votes
Silkworms	5
Tadpoles and frogs	3
Fish	4
Rabbits	11
Canaries	6

Discuss the results:

Which animal was the most popular? Why do you think this was so?

Which was the least popular animal? Why do you think this was so?

Which animal do you think would need the most care?

Was it a popular animal?

Which do you think would need the least amount of care? Was it a popular choice?

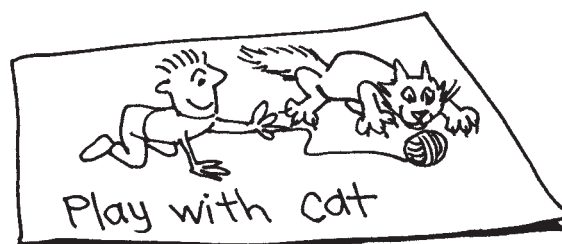
Choose me, choose me!

Write the names of the animals from the book onto cards (silkworms, tadpoles and frogs, fish, rabbits, canaries). Children take turns to choose a card and 'become' the animal written on that card. They need to persuade the rest of the group that they should be the classroom pet.

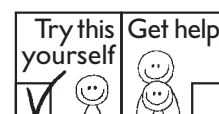
Animal book



1. Make a book.
2. Choose an animal from *Classroom Animals*.
On each page, write one thing that you would need to do to look after the animal.
3. Illustrate each page.
4. Present your book to the class.



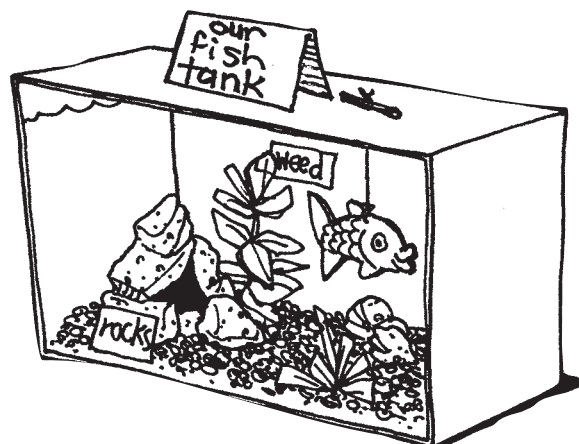
Model home



You will need:

old boxes, pipe cleaners, plastic containers, string, scissors, paper, sticky tape



1. Make a model of the perfect home for an animal.
2. Write labels to show the parts of your animal's new home.
3. Attach the labels to your model.



Name _____

Plus, minus and interesting

Write about each animal.

classroom pet	plus +	minus –	interesting
silkworms 			
tadpoles and frogs 			
fish 			
rabbits 			

Instructions Ask the children to write and draw to show the pluses (advantages), minuses (disadvantages) and interesting aspects of keeping each pet. When finished, have each child share their ideas with the group. You may like to compile a class list of the pluses, minuses and interesting ideas.

Name _____

Pet care

Draw a pet you would like to have.



Write about your pet.

Where does it live?	
What does it eat?	
How do you look after it?	