

Pets Are for Life



Math

Grades 5

Objective

To recognize that pet ownership is a commitment for the life of the pet.

Standards--Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills

§111.17. Mathematics, Grade 5.

(13) Probability and statistics. The student solves problems by collecting, organizing, displaying, and interpreting sets of data. The student is expected to: (C) graph a given set of data using an appropriate graphical representation such as a picture or line.

Skill

Students will be able to graph the life spans of various animals.

Materials

paper
markers

Activity

Students will research the life spans of several animals and create bar graphs comparing these.

Helpful Background Information

www.hsus.org

Procedure

1. Have students research the average life span of a human, a cat, a dog, a horse, a canary, a goldfish, and a guinea pig, then illustrate these in a bar graph.
2. As a class, discuss the long-term commitment of pet ownership.
3. Choose one pet as an example and ask students to speculate on the changes that might take place in their families' lives over the course of the animal's life. Could they move to a new town or state? What if a new baby

was born? What if a relative came to stay? All those events have a big impact on a family. How might they affect a family's ability to care for a pet? Explain that being a responsible pet owner is a commitment for the life of your pet.



To view this lesson plan online, go to www.klrn.org/hand-in-paw