

# Who's Responsible?

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Language Arts  
Grade 5

## Objective

To understand differences between responsible and irresponsible pet ownership.

## Standards--Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills

### §110.7. English Language Arts and Reading, Grade 5.

(15) Writing/purposes. The student writes for a variety of audiences and purposes, and in a variety of forms. The student is expected to: (D) write to entertain such as to compose humorous poems or short stories (4-8); (E) exhibit an identifiable voice in personal narratives and in stories (4-5).

## Skill

Students will be able to demonstrate their understanding of *responsible* and *irresponsible* as they relate to pet ownership by writing stories that incorporate both concepts.

## Materials

Dictionaries and pet care information. Sources include:

- [www.hsus.org/pets/pet\\_care/](http://www.hsus.org/pets/pet_care/)
- [www.healthypet.com/library.aspx](http://www.healthypet.com/library.aspx)
- [www.clickandtreat.com/webart03.htm](http://www.clickandtreat.com/webart03.htm)

## Activity

Students will look up the words *responsible* and *irresponsible* and write stories about responsible and irresponsible pet owners.

## Procedure

1. Have students look up the meanings of *responsible* and *irresponsible* in a dictionary.
2. Help your class form their own definitions for the two words and have them record the class definitions in their journals.
3. Instruct students to write two short stories – one about a responsible pet owner and one about an irresponsible pet owner – drawing from personal experiences or pet care information.

4. Ask several volunteers to share one of their two stories and have the rest of the class decide whether the pet owner in the story is responsible or irresponsible.



*To view this lesson plan online, go to [www.klrn.org/hand-in-paw](http://www.klrn.org/hand-in-paw)*