



Pets Like U (Post-Field Trip Activity 3-6)

The following are suggested follow-up activities to help students reflect on their field trip experience and extend their experience and knowledge.

After the Trip

Ask students their overall impressions of the field trip. What did you enjoy? What didn't you enjoy? What surprised you? What do you want to learn more about?

Have them share their general observations and reactions.

You may want to have the class compose and send thank-you notes to the PetSmart location. Try to be specific with names and experiences. Mention a favorite area or information learned during the field trip.

Demonstrate Knowledge

As a result of the field trip, students should have been engaged with activities and discussion regarding different animal groups and their needs.

Guide students to reflect and discuss key takeaways such as:

- Animal groups may not have feelings exactly like humans, but in many ways they are similar. For example, many animal groups, such as fish, thrive in communities (where they have companionship and safety in numbers).
- Reptiles and amphibians are often misunderstood and considered scary. But like humans, they enjoy being safe and warm.
- Humans are mammals, too. This means, just like small animals, we have fur, give live birth to our young, and we can maintain our own body temperatures in relation to our habitat.
- All animal groups require food, water, air, and shelter/safety to survive.
- Animals communicate in different ways, just like humans, do using language (sound) and body movement
- Understanding a pet's needs before taking on the responsibility of owning a pet is important! PetSmart experts are one resource the community can use to ask questions and find solutions to pet care.

Finally, use the "A Pet Like You" activity sheet to wrap-up and extend the field trip experience by having students use what they learned about pets/animal groups to make a pet choice that is most "like them" and identify what the characteristics and basic needs of the pet are. Be sure to have students compare and contrast their works with each other to reinforce how pets and humans are both different and alike.

Select a pet that you feel is like you in many ways based on its likes, dislikes, and basic needs. Then show what you know about the pet's basic needs by answering the questions with both sketches and words.

What pet have chosen that is most like you? _____

What group of animals does your pet belong to (circle):



small pets (mammals)



fish



birds



reptiles



other:

Sketch and tell about the diet your pet requires to grow and thrive:

Sketch and tell about the habitat your pet requires to feel safe:

Sketch and tell about your pet's needs such as socialization, exercise or special care:

The pet I chose is most like me because: _____
