

Pets Like U

Field Trip Main Ideas

Grades K - 6



Through hands-on interaction and facilitator-led discussion in the aisles of PetSmart, students will:

- Discuss and understand the basic needs of pets including habitat, behavior, diet, socialization, and basic care
- Engage with the basic vocabulary and concepts central to animal care and welfare
- Identify basic similarities and differences between animal groups, pets, and humans
- Incorporate STEM-thinking and action-based learning with real-world concepts pertaining to science and animal welfare

Fish: Fish may not have feelings like you or me, but in some ways, they are just like us! For example, community fish thrive when they're with friends.

Reptiles: Scaly and slithery, reptiles are often feared or considered last when it comes to a pet. But once you understand the needs of reptiles, maybe giving a lizard a little love isn't such a crazy idea.

Birds: Birds are very communicative animals. Whether they're perched in your living room or flying through the skies, birds sing, chirp, and squawk to tell each other and people their needs.

Small Pets (Mammals): Small pets aren't that different from cats and dogs. All mammals—including humans—share some needs.

Additional Key Themes & Vocabulary: basic needs, habitat, diet, behavior, socialization, community, cold-blooded, warm-blooded, gills, camouflage, humidity, nocturnal, migrate

This experience supports STEM and TEKS standards:

The lessons, discussions and activities throughout this experience support a STEM-based curriculum by emphasizing key concepts in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

This experience also incorporates fundamental concepts of science and animal welfare including diet, habitat, socialization, and other basic animal and pet care needs.

Additionally, this experience supports TEKS standards, including, but not limited to:

The study of elementary science includes planning and safely implementing classroom and outdoor investigations using scientific methods, analyzing information, making informed decisions, and using tools to collect and record information while addressing the content and vocabulary in physical, earth, and life sciences. Districts are encouraged to facilitate classroom **and outdoor investigations for at least 40-60% of instructional time.**

Note: All viewing areas, activities, and discussions for this field trip experience are subject to availability and may change slightly depending on the age of students and the overall size of the group. Adaptations may also be made in conjunction with the daily business needs of the facility and student/worker safety.