

LESSON PLAN

Activity Title: Module 1 – Lesson 7 Lifespan Activity

Space Needed: Classroom space.

Time Required: 30 minutes

Audience: Indicate which grade levels : 3rd-8th

Materials Needed: Animal lifespan worksheet, pencils.

Outcomes:

- Self-Worth
- Career
- Physical Health
- Mental Health
- Intellectual
- Civic and Social
- Responsibility
- Spirituality and Self-Awareness
- Belonging and Membership

Opportunities:

- Exploration, Practice, & Reflection
- Expression & Creativity
- Group Membership
- Contribution & Service

Subject Area :

- Literacy
- Social Studies
- Character
- Science
- Recreation
- Creative Arts
- Technology
- Health / Nutrition

Skill / Concept Objective:

To develop an awareness of the responsibility for specific pets that is required over a period of years.

Vocabulary Targeted:

Lifespan, other vocabulary that is encountered in the content of the worksheet.

Activity Description:

Tell the students that when we choose a pet, we need to consider lots of things about our lives. Can we offer a suitable environment? Can we provide food and medical care? AND...can we spend the kind of time needed by that animal for nurturing? As we consider the time we need to devote to that animal's emotional and physical care, we must think about not only NOW, but also years ahead. Can we make a long-term commitment to that animal? Or will we get tired of it when we are older, and then leave it without any attention? Hand out the Lifespan worksheet that covers the animals introduced in the first module. Ask students to think about each of these animals...they might really like the animals now, but could they commit to them for a long period of time? When students are done with the worksheet, share and discuss as a group. Did any of the students decide not to adopt any of the animals? Why? Tell students that if everyone who took home a new pet went through this thinking process FIRST, there would be fewer animals relinquished to local animal shelters.

How will the impact of this lesson be measured?

The impact of this lesson will be measured through teacher observation of: completed student worksheets; quality of student participation in the process of thinking about the type of pet that would be best for that student; and the decision-making process utilized by the students in choosing a pet.