

Lucky Dog Humane Education Lesson 1 –Writing Prompt

Aligns to the following Common Core Standards for K-5

(ELA = English Language Arts)

! **ELA Speaking and Listening** - Standards 1, 2, 4 & 6

! **ELA Writing** – Standards 3 & 8

Aligns to Social Emotional Learning Outcomes

! **Self Awareness:** Identifying emotions, thoughts and values

! **Self Management:** Self-discipline - Impulse control

! **Social Awareness:** Perspective-taking - Empathy - Respect for others - Diversity

! **Relationship Skills:** Communication - Relationship building

! **Responsible Decision-making:** Identifying problems - Analyzing situations - Solving Problems - Ethical responsibility - Reflecting

OBJECTIVE: To inspire children to feel empathy and compassion for animals and all living creatures through a simple follow up writing activity. Children will develop vocabulary and writing skills while they critically think of ways they can treat themselves and others with specific qualities.

PREPARATION: Presenters will tell the Lucky Dog Story, about a little shelter dog learning to be part of a family. This gives students basic knowledge of being part of a responsible pet family. It will also allow for children to relate their own experiences and compare them to Lucky's.

METHOD:

- Lucky Dog H.E. presenters will use a PowerPoint Storybook presentation, accompanied by posters, puppets, and props – The children will be introduced to (pictures) of other real shelter dogs and hear their stories. The children will participate in problem solving scenarios and are taught that the biggest way they can help shelter overpopulation is by keeping their own pets for life.

- Presenters will leave expansion activities for the classroom. These activities will help teachers promote compassion for animals and compassion in the classroom. They will also inspire children to understand that they, too, can participate in positive change for shelter animals and pet overpopulation.

IMPLEMENTATION:

After listening to the story of Lucky the Shelter Dog, and hearing the adjectives that Lucky uses to describe her new family, the children will be given the following writing prompt:

Lucky used many adjectives to describe her new family in the story. What are some ways you can show (or have shown) these qualities at school and at home?

Helpful Patient Respectful Loving Supportive Compassionate Responsible Understanding Thoughtful
Accepting

Materials: Pencil, paper, crayons or markers for illustrations

Concepts: Building Character, helping children think about ways to be kind, respectful, compassionate and accepting.

CONCLUSION: Give children an opportunity to share one or more of their stories of kindness. Post stories and drawings on a bulletin board for others to read. Read book Love Me Gently, By Lisa Wiehebrink to reinforce kindness lessons and the importance of being kind. Save "kindness stories" to share at the school wide "Kindnessfest" at the conclusion of the Lucky Dog Humane Education program.