

# Lucky Dog Humane Education Lesson – Safe or Unsafe?

## Aligns to the following Common Core Standards for K-5

(ELA = English Language Arts)

! **ELA Reading Informational Text** - Standard 3

! **ELA Speaking and Listening** - Standards 1 - 6

! **Critical Thinking** - Proficiency #1 - *Analyze, Evaluate, Problem Solve*

## 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, and to learn to be safe around animals through a picture sorting activity.

**PREPARATION:** Teacher or Presenter will lead a discussion that includes reading the Book *May I Pet Your Dog* by Stephanie Calmenson. This will give students basic knowledge how to be safe around dogs (stray dogs, unfamiliar dogs, and family pets).

### METHOD:

- Lucky Dog H.E. presenters (or classroom teacher) will use a PowerPoint, Video, PAWfessor visitor and/or Storybook presentation, accompanied by posters, puppets, and props – The children will be introduced to ways to be safe and unsafe around dogs. They will learn the technique of “Be a Tree” around a stray dog, the rule of “3 Yeses” when they want to meet an unfamiliar dog, and they will learn how to be respectful, gentle, and safe around their family pet.

- 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 participating in the Dog Safety lesson and story, the classroom teacher will lead a discussion on safety around pet dogs. The teacher will read the book *Tails Are Not for Pulling* - by Elizabeth Verdick and/or show the video from Stopthe77.com <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ABDrhNBwdpk> and lead a critical analysis discussion of the book/video by relating it to the *Pitty Pawfessor Lesson*. The teacher will then show the children the stack of mixed “Safe” and Unsafe” pictures and have each child take a turn choosing a picture and stating why it is safe or unsafe. Allow time for discussion and analysis of each picture. Have the child glue the picture onto the correct poster (green poster with the word “SAFE” or red poster with the word “UNSAFE”) (photos to print are available in teacher resource packet)

### Materials:

Two posters or large construction paper (1 red, 1 green)

Pictures of safe and unsafe ways to interact with a pet dog (in resource packet)

Glue

**Concepts:** Teaching empathy and respect for the feelings of others, teaching safety around pets and the importance of being gentle, respectful, and safe. Teaching the importance of reading body language

**CONCLUSION:** Activity will end when all pictures have been glued to the correct poster, hang poster in classroom to help remind children to be respectful and safe around animals

**EXPANSION:** Save posters to display at “Kindnessfest” at the conclusion of the Lucky Dog Humane Education Program