

# Lucky Dog Humane Education –Kindness 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 kindness.

**PREPARATION:** Students will meet a **PAWFESSOR** that has survived trauma/abuse or read the story *Buddy Unchained* by Daisy Bix and participate an interactive session on being kind, helping others, and speaking out when we see bullying or cruelty. This gives students basic knowledge of being kind, being a trustworthy friend, being a responsible citizen and doing their part in stopping cruelty and neglect.

## IMPLEMENTATION:

After meeting a PAWfessor who has survived cruelty or listening to the story of *Buddy Unchained* and discussing scenarios of cruelty the children will be given the following writing prompt:

**Write a Letter to a dog that has survived Cruelty and tell them:**

- **Why you promise to be kind and never be cruel**
- **Why kindness is important to you**
- **Ways you are/will be kind to your pets**
- **Ways you are/will be kind to stray animals**
- **Ways you are/will be kind to your friends**
- **Ways you will be kind to a new student at your school or a classmate that you don't know well**
- **Tell them how meeting them empowered you to do your part to stop bullying and spread kindness**

**Materials:** Pencil, paper, crayons or markers for illustrations

**Concepts:** Building Character, helping children think about ways to be kind and ways to make a difference.

**CONCLUSION:** Give children an opportunity to share their letters before sending them. Lucky Dog Humane Educators will collect letters to mail to the Pawfessor they wrote to.

© 2016 Lisa Potiker