

Pets Need What People Need

OBJECTIVE: Students will be able to identify the basic needs of humans and pets. Students will understand that because these needs are the same, our pets should be considered as part of our family.

ACTIVITY OVERVIEW: Teacher or Leader will lead the students in a discussion about what basic needs humans and pets have while comparing and contrasting them. Students will analyze a page in the book, *Buddy Unchained*, and be able to identify what basic needs Buddy is missing.

MATERIALS: • Buddy Unchained by Daisy Bix

ACTIVITY:

Procedure

1. Ask students to think of something that all humans need (food, water, shelter, love, etc.). List items in a column to the left side of a chalk/white board.
2. Ask students to think of something that all pets, no matter what kind of animal it is, need. List items in a column to the right side of a chalk/white board.
3. Draw a line to connect similar items in each column, i.e.

Human Needs

Food
Water
Shelter
Love
Medical care

Pet Needs

Water
Veterinary Care
Love
Food
Shelter

4. Explain how human needs and pet needs are similar and help students come to the conclusion that pets should be treated and provided for as a member of their family.
5. Show the students a specific page in the book, Buddy Unchained. For example, show the page in which Buddy is sitting in the snow attached to a chain (caption reads, "When it got very cold, my paws hurt.").
6. While studying the picture, ask the students the following questions:
 - What need is Buddy missing in this picture?
 - What would you do if you saw a pet in a similar situation?
 - What is Buddy feeling in this picture?
 - Is there anything that could have been done to prevent this situation?
7. Look at other pages in the book, repeating these questions as you discuss the needs represented in each illustration. Explain that since pets cannot meet their needs by themselves, people are responsible for providing all of their needs.