

Name: _____

Animals in the Classroom Packet

Tasks 1-3

Fifth Grade Research-Based Opinion Writing

Should animals be allowed in the classroom?



Response to video “Why Dogs Reduce Stress in the Classroom”

What is one important reason that this text gives for why dogs reduce stress? Name the reason and list more than one detailed example or other specific evidence the video gives to support that reason.

According to the video, what is one important way that dogs reduce stress in the classroom?

What examples or other specific pieces of evidence do the video give to support this?

· Example or evidence:

· Example or evidence:

Task 1: Response to “Should You Have a Pet in Your Classroom?”

This article presents and explains many reasons for keeping pets in classrooms. The outline below shows one reason from the article, and a quote from the article that helps explain that reason. Complete the outline below with another reason from the article, and at least one quote from the article to explain or support that reason.

Write a quote from the article that explains or supports this reason.

“Raising pets in the classroom helps students to understand the needs of the animals and how much commitment is truly needed to keep animals comfortable and healthy.”

According to the article, why should schools allow pets in classrooms?

One reason the article gives is: Pets in classrooms teach children responsibility.

According to the article, why should schools allow pets in classrooms?

Another reason the article gives is: _____

Write a quote from the article that explains or supports this reason.

Task 2: Response to “Leave Animals Out of the Classroom”

The author of this text takes a clear position on this topic. However, there are places in the text that mention the other side. Use the table below to record quotes from the text.

Animals should not be in classrooms

Quote from the text that shows this side:

Animals should be in classrooms

Quote from the text that shows this side:

The author of this text takes a clear position on this topic. What is one piece of **evidence** from the article that supports the author’s clear position on whether we should have animals in classrooms?

How does this **evidence** support the author’s position on whether or not we should have animals in classrooms? (Continue on the back of this page for more space.)

Task 3: Should animals be allowed in the classroom? What is your point of view, stance or opinion?

Research-Based Opinion Writing

Imagine that your task is to convince your science teacher, Mrs. Beckwith, either to allow pets in classrooms, or not allow pets in classrooms, based on the video and articles that you used for research. Write an opinion essay stating and explaining your position on this issue. Convince Mrs. Beckwith of your point of view.

Make sure you clearly state a claim supporting pets in classrooms or not allowing pets in classrooms, and then support that claim with evidence from the texts you've read and watched.

See directions on the other side of this packet.

DIRECTIONS:

- Plan how you will organize this letter – use the space on the other side of this packet to plan your letter. You will get a grade for your outline plan.
- **USE THE ESSAY CHECKLIST TO HELP YOU WRITE YOUR OUTLINE AND PLAN FOR YOUR LETTER.**
- In the introduction to your letter, write a claim stating your point of view and stance.
- **USE THE NEW YORK STATE WRITING RUBRIC TO GUIDE YOUR WRITING.**
- **USE THE RACE GRAPHIC ORGANIZER TO HELP YOU ORGANIZE YOUR ESSAY.**
- Support your claim with clear reasons and relevant evidence, using credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
- Use three quotes to support your stance. Be sure that your quotes are only **one** sentence long. Be sure to use quotation marks. Quote directly from the texts you read and watched.
- Use words, phrases, and clauses to clarify the relationships between the claim and reasons, such as *for example*, *for instance*, *in addition*, *moreover*, etc.
- Maintain the formal style of an opinion essay/letter.
- Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the argument.
- Write as much as you can, as quickly as you can.
- **BE SURE TO USE THE COPS REVISION CHECKLIST AS YOU PROOFREAD YOUR WORK.**

Outline Plan for your opinion essay: USE THE ESSAY CHECKLIST AND THE RACE GRAPHIC ORGANIZER TO HELP YOU WRITE YOUR OUTLINE AND PLAN FOR YOUR OPINION LETTER. This outline plan is for a grade.

Name: _____

Animals in the Classroom Packet

Three Non-fiction Text Samples

Fifth Grade Research-Based Opinion Writing

Should animals be allowed in the classroom?

