

# Activity Plan

## A dog's needs

### ACTIVITY LOCATION:

- Anywhere

### YOU WILL NEED:

- **A dog's needs** worksheet
- **A dog's needs** answers
- Red and blue pens, crayons or felt tips
- **The 5 Welfare Needs** ([click here](#) to download a version for the wall, or [here](#) for individual cards to hand out)

### PREPARATION

Collect leaflets about dog care, or download and print information from [petsathome.com](http://petsathome.com) or [rspca.org.uk/dogs](http://rspca.org.uk/dogs).

### Introduction

**15 MINUTES**

Invite the children to tell the group briefly if any of them owns a dog; its breed, name, age, where they got it, what they feed it.

Read the short story about William and Skye on the worksheet **A dog's needs** (the children could take turns to read aloud). Ask if they think William looks after his dog well, and why. List some of the main points they make about food, water, where the dog lives and sleeps, care for its health, how it is allowed to behave, and its interactions with other animals.

### Activity

**30 MINUTES**

Put the children in pairs, and hand out a copy of the worksheet **A dog's needs** to each pair. Ask them to mark the + or - side of the chart as a tally (I = 1, II = 2, III = 3, IIII = 4, HHH = 5, etc) and then to write the total number on each side and work out the balance.

Display **The 5 Welfare Needs**. Ask the children to look at their answers again and check how well William and his family provide these for Skye. They might decide to change some of their answers.

### Discussion

**15 MINUTES**

Invite each pair to give an example of a correct action by William. Ask if the others agree. Display the answers, using a whiteboard if available. Explain these:

1. Skye has a safe place to live with a comfortable bed.



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**(continued)**

- She should have a collar with a tag that includes her owner's name and address in case she gets lost. She should be kept on a lead while walking along roads, to be safe.
2. Skye has the right kind of food (dog food) but it might not be the correct amount. She doesn't always have water when she needs it. She shouldn't have sugary foods as they are bad for her teeth. Dogs shouldn't have human chocolate as it can make them ill. Too much can even kill them.
  3. Skye has toys to play with and the chance to run around. Training is good because it can help to keep a dog safe and to stop it being a nuisance to visitors or people it meets on walks.
  4. Skye has the chance to play with other dogs. Dogs can live with humans with or without other dogs, but she shouldn't be allowed to scare small animals.
  5. Taking Skye for a walk helps to keep her fit and healthy. William brushes her. This helps to keep her clean and keeps her coat free from tangles. William was right to take her home when she was hurt, but he should have told his parents about it right away so that they could take her to the vet to get checked.

**CURRICULUM LINKS**

- Science (KS2)
- Maths (KS2)
- Citizenship (KS2)

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