

Small Animal “Week Long” Lesson Plan-Kindergarten

RABBITS

Objective: Students will be able understand the needs, social aspects and habits of rabbits.

** Prior to me teaching this lesson, I will have already sent home a letter to the parents explaining the plans for the week and giving the parents an opportunity to speak with me regarding any questions or concerns they may have.

I will begin the lesson with Circle Time and discuss the following:

- Do you know what a rabbit is?
- Have you ever seen a rabbit?
- Have you ever held a rabbit?
- Do you have a rabbit?
- What do they look like?
- Are all rabbits the same?
- What do they eat?
- Where do they live?
- How do they move?
- Do they have long or short ears?

The students will fill out a class KWL chart following our circle time discussion. We will refer to this chart towards the end of the lesson, but it will be hanging in our classroom throughout the whole lesson, for them to refer to when they need to.

I will then read them two books about bunnies, one fiction and one non-fiction. We will have a discussion about the traits and characteristics of the rabbits and compare the answers we now have to our answers from circle time questions. The students will view a video of different rabbits and then we will discuss how they are different and how they are the same. We will be using a Venn diagram while discussing this. Students will help with the labeling.

Before introducing the class bunny, I will discuss with students why using a quiet voice and slow movements around rabbits is important. We will discuss a soft touch from a rough touch and practice on a stuffed rabbit.

I will bring out the class rabbit and introduce him as “OUR NEW STUDENT”. The kids will have the opportunity to pet him softly. We will then discuss the process of naming our new student. The kids will vote on the name. Once we have his name, we will begin talking about his needs and who will be taking care of the rabbit.

I will bring out my chart I made ahead of time, which shows the things we need to do to care for our rabbit. The students will review the chart, and see if I have left any jobs out. The students will refer to their acquired knowledge from the videos, books and discussions to base their ideas on. We will add jobs if they are needed. I will tell the children that each of them will get a chance to care for the rabbit.

Over the next week or so, the students will be able to participate in the following activities:

Science: Students watch a video on how to care for an indoor pet rabbit. The students will list the things that are healthy for a bunny to eat, on chart paper. We will discuss making a chart to keep track of which snack the rabbit likes the most and how we can tell that information. Students will chart this each day and then discuss the findings at the end of the week. We will also discuss what we can do with the information gained from the chart.

Language Arts: Students will listen to different stories about rabbits throughout the week, and complete different worksheet activities based around the books. They will also each create a beginning, middle and ending chart for one of the stories. They will also draw a picture of their favorite part of one of the stories and label their drawings with words, the best they can. They will complete an assortment of activities such as, writing letter Rr, play rabbit memory, color rabbit papers, words that begin with Rr. Students will also be involved in making a bulletin board for the hallway, that says "Look At What's Hopping In Room 137!" (I will have already taken the kids individual pictures with the rabbit and developed it, then put it in a foam rabbit face frame. This will go on the bulletin board by each of their papers.) The students will hang their favorite part of the story drawing they did, using the foam hanging picture of themselves.

Writing: Towards the middle of the week, students will write and invitation to other classes and the administration, to have them come and meet our “New Student”. The students will be responsible for each learning a fact about the rabbit and sharing it with our guests. The students will hand-deliver their invitations and the guests will come at the end of the week, after the students have completed all of our lesson activities. This is to ensure they have all the knowledge they need about rabbits and can share their knowledge with others.

Art: Students will make puppet rabbits and goons to use in music class when they learn the song Little Bunny Foo Foo.

Music: Students will listen to the song Little Bunny Foo Foo in music class and use the puppets and goons they made in art, to dance with during the song.

** The art, music, physical education and library teachers in our building are always willing to plan their lessons to support the classroom curriculum.

Math: Students will practice counting plastic rabbits and matching them up to plastic carrots, play rabbit bingo, graphing who likes what type of rabbit, rabbit worksheets and simple addition and subtraction using toy rabbits.

Library: The librarian will be reading rabbit stories to the kids and watching videos about rabbits.

Physical Education: The teacher will have the students play “rabbit “ games, such as rabbit racing, bunny hopping and chase the rabbit.

Snack Time: Each day during the week, students will have a snack that they have learned that rabbits like.

Visitors

**The local “Zoo To You” will be invited to bring their rabbit and share with the students their knowledge of rabbits. This will give the students and opportunity to see a different breed of rabbit and ask questions from an expert.

**Our Speech Pathologist would also be invited to speak with the kids, as she breeds rabbits. She would also bring a different type of rabbit for the kids to see.

At the end of the week, students will have the opportunity to re-visit the KWL chart and fill-in the last column and discuss the chart and see if their questions were answered.

The students will also complete the week by making a drawing book about rabbits and demonstrate their knowledge of rabbits. I will help them with spelling and labeling, if needed. These books will be displayed on the bulletin board the students made in the hallway for all to see.

We will end the week on Friday, by having a “Bunny Snack”. This will be a big salad with the items that bunnies eat. We will also play Little Bunny Foo Foo and let the kids use their puppets and goons to dance and act them out. They will also learn the Bunny Hop dance. If the weather permits, we will go outside and have “bunny sack” races.

The students will have demonstrated their knowledge through a number of activities during the week. They showed it through writing, ELA, teaching others and charts.

**I have 7 rabbits of my own, so I have no problem bringing in a rabbit, supplies and knowledge.

Thank you for this opportunity. I hope you find this “weekly” plan to be engaging, entertaining and educational, through a number of different types of activities.

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