

TEXT SETS: Pets in the Classroom

These pop culture text sets attempt to represent not just a topic, but an issue within that topic, and sides of that issue. The text sets present multiple perspectives on an issue—as well as multiple levels of texts and multiple modalities. Some articles may need to be adapted for lower-level readers. Please keep in mind that websites are temporal.

As always, please preview these sets (and any web-based comments accompanying online materials) before giving them to your students to make sure they are best-suited for your particular class.

An article by PETA detailing cases of cruelty and neglect of classroom pets across the country.
<http://secure.peta.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=2411>

An article for the Humane Society of the United States offering suggested alternatives to the classroom pet.
http://www.humanesociety.org/parents_educators/classroom_pet.html

An article by *Better Homes and Gardens* to show “Classroom Critters: To Be or Not To Be?”
<http://www.bhg.com/health-family/pets/care/classroom-critters-to-be-or-not-to-be/>

An article by KOMONEWS.com where Port Angeles School Board bans classroom pets.
<http://www.komonews.com/news/local/port-angeles-school-board-to-ban-classroom-pets>

Bulleted list of an outlined list of the pros and cons of classroom pets.
<http://www.kinderart.com/teachers/pets.shtml>

An article by *Scholastic*, “Animals Make Good Teachers.”
<http://www.scholastic.com/resources/article/animals-make-good-teachers/>

An article by the *Daily Sentinel*, “Classroom Pets Teach the Importance of Responsibility.”
http://thedailysentinel.com/lifestyle/features/article_0a28a45e-3bad-11e0-8a84-001cc4c002e0.html

An online slideshow describing the benefits of having a classroom pet. Search for “What are the Benefits of a Classroom Pet?”
<http://www.slideshare.net>

An organization promoting Kids and pets—it’s just natural—Pets in the Classroom Grants
<http://www.petsintheclassroom.org/>

“Classroom Critters: Offering Grants to Classrooms to Help Enhance the Classroom Experience”
http://www.northjersey.com/news/101949438_Classroom_critters.html

An article by *USA Today News* showing how Dogs help schools lick bullies
<http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/wellness/story/2011-09-28/Dogs-help-schools-lick-bullies/50592574/1.html>