

Introduction to Cats, Dogs and Us

Dear teachers,

Welcome to this International Fund for Animal (IFAW) resource for special schools, which focuses on learning about cats and dogs and ourselves, as part of IFAW's Animal Action education programme.

Cats and dogs are great friends to our students and through this pack you'll be able to teach your students how to return that friendship. In learning about cats and dogs your students will also learn things useful to their own lives, such as how we express emotions and what we need to be happy and healthy. We hope you'll find something for every one of your students in this pack, including those who access their learning in a purely sensory way and those achieving at a level equivalent to their mainstream peers.

Within this pack you will find a magazine which you can download, print and share with your students. You will also find five lesson plans focusing on different areas of the curriculum (including drama, citizenship, literacy, PE, PSHE and science). Accompanying the lesson plans you'll find a number of supporting resources and activities for you to use. We hope you'll want to share your learning with others so we've also included a performance plan. The pack also references a film and audio cue which are both available online. If you would like to receive a copy of the film in DVD format, please let us know at the contact details overleaf.

With best wishes

Nancy Barr

Programme Director

IFAW Animal Action Education



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We would love to hear about how you get on with this pack, so do share your successes and feedback with us at www.ifaw.org/teacher-feedback-uk or by emailing the contact details overleaf.

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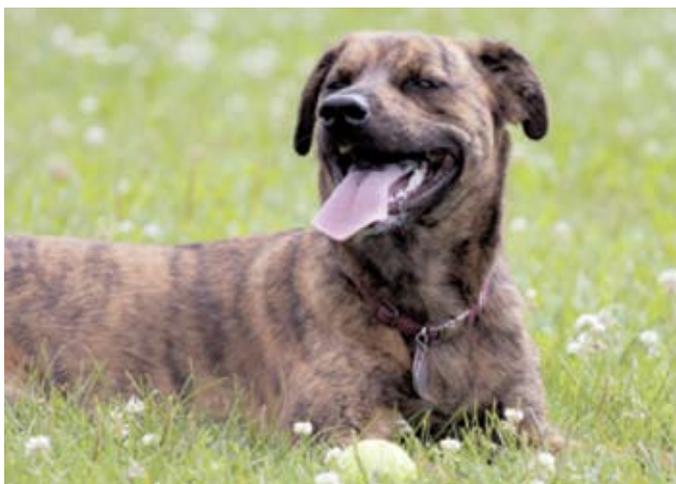


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It is widely accepted that most children have an affinity for, or at least interest in, animals and curiosity about nature, meaning that lessons with animal content are more likely to capture your student's attention. This is no different for children with special educational needs, and through this pack you will be able to share the personal stories of children who have a special bond with their pet cat and dog. Cats and dogs have been shown to be incredibly important to children with special needs and disabilities, with studies demonstrating that animals can provide a conduit to helping develop children's emotional needs, social skills and communication.

IFAW and Animal Action Education

The International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) rescues and protects animals around the world. IFAW's Animal Action Education programme provides free educational materials on animal welfare and conservation themes in a dozen languages and dialects, including Braille, reaching some five million young people worldwide each year in over 40 countries. For more information and to view our library of free teaching resources, visit www.ifaw.org/education.



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Further information

For more information on this resource or any of IFAW's work you can e-mail
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or call

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