



PARENT CONNECTION

ANIMALS MAKE GOOD TEACHERS

FROM CLASSROOM PETS TO YOUR HOME



Have you ever noticed that many preschool and kindergarten classrooms have a pet? It might be as simple as a hermit crab or fish or as elaborate as a guinea pig or rabbit. No matter the size or species of the animal, the process of caring for it is filled with enormous opportunities for learning. Young children learn science, literacy and social/ethical skills through the many different ways they interact with the class pet.

Animals are Science • They observe how and when the animal moves, what it eats, where it sleeps.

Animals build Literacy Skills • Combine children's natural fascinations with animals and their beginning reading and writing skills, and you have a recipe for success. Children love to hear stories about animals, look at pictorial science books, and write or draw their own stories about their

new friend.

Animals build Social/Ethical Skills • Perhaps most of all, animals teach children about caring and responsibility. Taking care of something smaller than themselves builds important character skills. The process of seeing to the needs of something less capable helps your child understand the importance of being responsible and empathetic.

YOU CAN DO IT TOO! You don't have to get a dog or cat, consider something simple like a goldfish, a hermit crab, or a mouse. Size does not matter—it is the process of caretaking that does.

- Go to the library and get books about pets.
- Have a family discussion about the kind of pet to choose.
- Do research on the internet, and at the library, for information on its needs.
- Set up a schedule for feeding, watering, and cleaning.
- Encourage your child to draw pictures of your pet to chronicle its growth and change.



SPRING 2017
VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

Not Your Mama's Home Show

Shop your favorite specialty
products ALL in one place

Saturday, April 22, 2017

11:00am-4:00pm

Marbletown Community Center
(3564 Main St · Stone Ridge)

\$2.00 Admission

Raffle Prizes

50/50 Raffle

Refreshments

The Amazing Vendors

Mary Kay

Tastefully Simple

Pampered Chef

PartyLite Candles

Premier Designs

LuLaRoe

Arbonne

And many more

My Garden

Kevin Henkes

A Perfect Day for Digging

Cari Best

Flower Garden

Eve Bunting

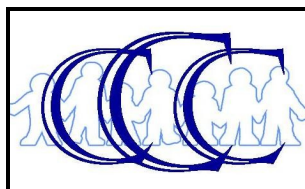
The Secret Garden

Frances Hodgson Burnett

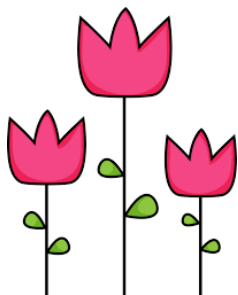
SPRING READING



CHILD CARE CONNECTIONS



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