

Who's Responsible?

Language Arts

Grades 5 and 6

Objective

To understand differences between responsible and irresponsible pet ownership.

Skill

Students will be able to demonstrate their understanding of *responsible* and *irresponsible* as they relate to pet ownership by writing stories that incorporate both concepts.

Materials

Dictionaries and pet care information. Sources include:

- www.hsus.org/programs/companion/pet_care/pet_care.html
- www.healthypet.com/Library/index.html
- www.clickandtreat.com/webart03.htm

Activity

Students will look up the words *responsible* and *irresponsible* and write stories about responsible and irresponsible pet owners.

Procedure

1. Have students look up the meanings of *responsible* and *irresponsible* in a dictionary.
2. Help your class form their own definitions for the two words and have them record the class definitions in their journals.
3. Instruct students to write two short stories—one about a responsible pet owner and one about an irresponsible pet owner—drawing from personal experiences or pet care information. Ask several volunteers to share one of their two stories and have the rest of the class decide whether the pet owner in the story is responsible or irresponsible.