Objective

To be aware that animals need certain conditions to survive.

Resources

Copies of activity sheet 1.
Crayons, pencils.

Preparation

Invite a parent or other visitor to talk to the children about their own pet and how they care for it.
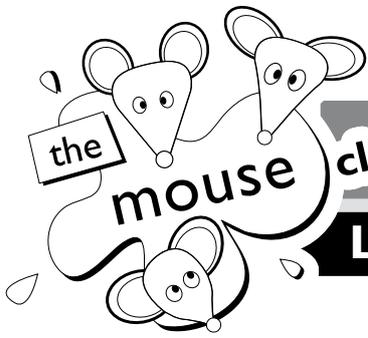
Early Learning Goals

• **Personal, social & emotional development:** Chat with confidence and share ideas in a group. Understand that animals have different needs and need to be treated with care and respect.

• **Communication, language & literacy:** Set up a role play area as a pet shop or clinic. Make simple posters about each animal with a picture and one fact for each e.g. cats need lots of love. Use sheet 1 to match pictures of the adult animals with their offspring e.g. cat – kitten.

• **Mathematical development:** Make a simple block graph of pets. Count each group of pets. Put them into groups e.g. those that live in tanks i.e. fish, spiders and those that live in a hutch e.g. rabbit.

• **Knowledge and understanding of the world:** Think about unusual pets and consider why it would not be a good idea to keep them as pets e.g. tiger. What do pets eat? Do they eat the same as us?

• **Physical development:** Shows dexterity when cutting out pictures or using a variety of animal puppets. Handles tools and construction toys to build simple homes for the animals in the shop.

• **Creative development:** Use large empty boxes to make a variety of homes, a hutch for a rabbit, a cage for a bird. Make papier mache animals or decorate old socks to make hand puppets.
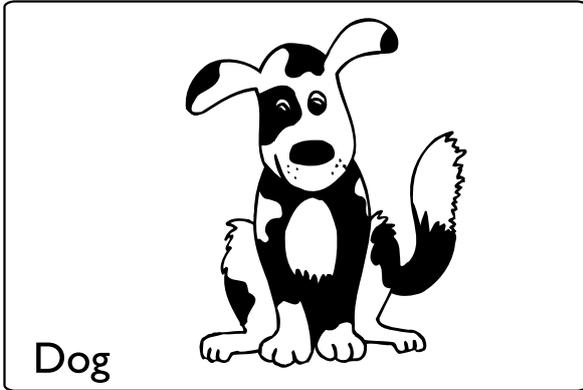
Activity

Make wriggling worms. Draw a snake's head in the middle of the plate and then take your pencil for a walk round and round the plate. Decorate with diamonds or stripes. Then cut round from the outer edge. Attach some wool around the snake's neck and hold it up and watch it wriggle.

Links with Home

On a trip to the supermarket look at the different foods and toys available for pets. Chat with your child about ways to look after pets.

Adult animal

Baby animal

Dog

Kitten

Sheep

Calf

Cat

Lamb

Cow

Puppy