



Grades K-2 Teacher's Guide

Introduction

Share the World is a free educational program designed to help students develop respect and compassion for all living beings and learn how to make a positive difference for animals.

Target Audience

This version of the program has been designed for use with students in kindergarten through second grade. We encourage educators to adjust the suggested guidelines and activities as they see fit for their particular students.

Program Objectives

Share the World is designed to accomplish the following objectives:

- Enhance students' understanding that all animals are living, feeling beings who deserve our consideration, respect, and protection
- Assist students in recognizing that animals often have the same needs and feelings that we do, which will help them develop empathy for others
- Enable students to appreciate the fascinating characteristics and abilities of animals
- Help students understand how humans' regard for animals has changed and developed as knowledge of them has increased
- Empower students by helping them recognize the advances that we've made as a society in moving away from using animals, in addition to showing them ways to take responsibility and help animals in their own lives

Share the World can also be used in your efforts to meet Common Core State Standards.



Program Components

- *Share the World* DVD
- Teacher's guide
- Reproducible activity sheets
- Reproducible kindness pledge
- Reproducible coloring sheet
- Classroom poster

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Activity & Answer Guides

Each activity in this kit includes a “For Teachers” page with instructions and reproducible sheets for students. There are four exceptions: “Opening Activity: Test Your Animal Knowledge” includes only a reproducible sheet for students, while “Part 2: Practicing Empathy,” “Part 1: Amazing Animal Facts,” and “Part 2: How Do They Feel?” include only a “For Teachers” page.

▶▶ Opening Activity: Test Your Animal Knowledge

You can use this activity to activate students’ prior knowledge about some of the fascinating characteristics and abilities that animals possess. All facts listed here are covered in the *Share the World* DVD, so you can do this activity before watching the video as an anticipatory set to gauge students’ existing knowledge base and pique their interest in animals. You can also have students complete this activity again after watching the video in order to assess their understanding of the information that was presented and encourage them to reflect on what they’ve learned.

Please note that all the statements are true. Be sure to review them with students who responded “false” and refer back to the video. This activity is designed to help students appreciate animals’ interesting and complex traits. See the Visual Support Guide at SharetheWorld.org/VisualSupportGuide for possible modifications.

Additional note: You may need to provide definitions for some of the vocabulary used. For example, statement #5 includes the word “mourn” (“to feel or show sadness when someone dies”) and statement #8 contains the word “migrate” (“to move from one place to another”).

▶▶ Animals Are Like Us

Part 1: The Golden Rule and You

Answers to small-group work will vary. Here are some possible answers:

- How this situation fails to live up to the Golden Rule:** Hitting the cat can cause pain and injury, and it’s not an effective training method.
What you can do: Suggest that the guardian research and practice effective, nonviolent training methods. If the cat appears to have been injured, contact another adult to report it.
- How this situation fails to live up to the Golden Rule:** No one has stopped to help the injured bird.
What you can do: Protect the bird from further injury. Ask an adult to take the bird to a veterinarian for treatment, or call your local humane society for help.
- How this situation fails to live up to the Golden Rule:** The dog’s basic needs for food, water, exercise, and companionship are being ignored.
What you can do: Have a parent, teacher, or other trusted adult come with you to notify the dog’s owner that the dog appears to be in need of food and water. If the situation doesn’t change, contact the local humane society and give as much information about the situation as you can.
- How this situation fails to live up to the Golden Rule:** The turtle’s life is being put in danger.
What you can do: Return the turtle to the riverbank, and tell your friend about the dangers of removing animals from their natural habitats.
- How this situation fails to live up to the Golden Rule:** The animals in the petting zoo are scared of being handled by strangers, and their basic needs are not being met because they’re being dragged from place to place for entertainment.
What you can do: If you see any animals in danger, report the situation to an adult and tell your friend that animals don’t want to be used for entertainment.

See the Visual Support Guide at SharetheWorld.org/VisualSupportGuide for possible modifications.

Part 2: Practicing Empathy

Answers to small-group work will vary. Some possible answers might include these:

Scenario 1: happy, content, loved

Scenario 2: sad, miserable, lonely

Scenario 3: happy, joyful, content

Scenario 4: sad, frustrated, trapped

Scenario 5: happy, devoted, loved

Scenario 6: sad, heartbroken, worried

Part 3: I Am an Animal

Answers to small-group work will vary according to students' individual experiences and abilities.

▶▶ Animals Are Amazing

Part 1: Amazing Animal Facts

Answers will vary based on students' opinions.

Part 2: How Do They Feel?

Responses will vary according to the knowledge that students have gained from the book and personal experiences.

▶▶ How You Can Save Animals

Part 1: Be an Animal's Best Friend

Answers will vary. One possible answer is below.

A dog likes:	We both like:	I like:
playing fetch	eating a big dinner	playing video games

Part 2: Changing Times, Changing Minds

You can use this activity to help students recognize that as society progresses, humans make changes that move away from the use of animals such as frogs for dissection.

Part 3: Animal Overpopulation = Sad Math

Here, students will learn about the homeless-animal overpopulation crisis through a graphing activity. It will help them understand that there simply aren't enough good homes for all the dogs and cats who are born and that the best way to solve the crisis is by having our animal companions spayed or neutered.

Make sure that students understand that spaying and neutering animals and always adopting them from open-admission animal shelters, rather than buying them from pet stores or breeders, are the best ways to help solve the homeless-animal crisis. Also, explain to students that in addition to dogs and cats, other animals commonly purchased at pet stores—like mice, rats, hamsters, fish, reptiles, rabbits, and birds—are suffering from overpopulation, too. By adopting, not buying, students can save lives instead of supporting businesses that profit from bringing even more animals into an already overpopulated world.

