



My Pet

By Lynn Salem and Josie Stewart

8 Pages/66 Words

Available in Spanish



Synopsis

A young girl considers various pets in the pet store before choosing a gerbil.

Before the First Page

Play “Guess That Pet.” Students write three clues about a pet. The group guesses what kind of pet each student has described.

Set-Up for Success

Discuss the special characteristics that are wanted in a pet. Restate the language of the book such as, “You want a pet that could hide.”

Independent Reading – Students may need support with **hide**, page 2; **laugh**, page 3; **know**, page 4.

Guided Reading – Review the suggestions for *Independent Reading*. Include support for **wanted**, page 2; **hug** and **picked**, page 4.

Learning about Print

- Punctuation marks – period, question mark, exclamation point, ellipsis (...).
- 1-1 correspondence on multiple lines of text.
- Capitalization of **I** as a pronoun.
- Environmental print – **SALE, PETS, OPEN**, signs at the pet store, page 1.

Key Words and Phrases

I wanted a pet that could

It can

Learning about Words

The vocabulary in this book provides opportunities to introduce, practice or enrich the following:

- Action words – **run, hide, sit, laugh, hug.**
- Word ending **ed** – **wanted.**
- Word families – **pet, that.**

Assessment Opportunities

The following problem-solving behaviors can be observed and recorded:

- Retelling the story or relating personal experiences.
- Using the beginning letters and sounds to solve unfamiliar words.
- Reading high frequency words fluently – **I, a, that, me, want, it, can, and, make.**
- Accurate directionality on unusual placement of text.

After the Last Page

- Create a pet shop center. Role-play the different people in the shop.
- Write an owner’s guide for taking care of a pet.
- Write a letter inviting the owner of a pet store to speak to the class.
- Take a field trip to a pet store.
- Stop reading on page 4. Have the students finish the story by writing or telling a new ending.
- Adopt a class pet.

Throughout the Day

Math

- Make a graph of the pets children have at home.
- * Identify patterns from borders in the book. Create the same kinds of patterns (ABAB) with manipulatives.

Problem-Solving

- Stop reading at the end of page 4. Brainstorm all the animals that would have the characteristics the girl wanted in a pet.
- How can a school pet be cared for on the weekend?

Science

- * Observe a gerbil or another pet for two weeks. Keep a class journal of the observations.
- Designate class jobs. Discuss the responsibility of caring for a class pet.

Health

- Learn the basics of hand washing after caring for or handling pets.

The Home Connection

Send home a journal entitled “Who Am I?” along with the book *My Pet*. Each family writes a riddle about a pet on the right-hand page of the journal. Turn the page to illustrate the answer.

* Show What You Know – a document to keep

Activities marked with an asterisk (*) are appropriate for assessment.

Read on...

Balian, Lorna. *The Animal*.

Burningham, John. *The Rabbit*.

Christian, Mary. *The Pet Day Mystery*.

Graham, Amanda. *Who Wants Arthur?*

Keats, Ezra Jack. *Pet Show*.

Kellogg, Steven. *Can I Keep Him?*

Petty, Kate. *Gerbils*.

Pope, Joyce. *Taking Care of Gerbils*.

Salem, Lynn and Josie Stewart. *Taking Care of Rosie*.

