



Let's Find Out About It: Pets in a Family

Standard Connection:

- ELA.RL.PK4.1
- ELA.RL.PK4.7
- ELA.W.PK4.1c
- S.LS.PK4.3
- PD.FM.PK4.4
- VA.CN10.1.PK

Enduring Understanding(s):

- More mature family members are responsible for the safety and needs of less mature members.

Essential Question(s):

- How do families care for each other?

Materials	Vocabulary	Books
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Crybaby</i> and <i>Peter's Chair</i> • images of various animals often had as pets (cats, birds, hamsters, guinea pigs, fish, etc.) Keep in mind the children in your group and include any animals you know/suspect they have at home (see Resource) • provide technology to be able to look up and display images of additional pets mentioned (iPad, phone, computer, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pet: animal that lives with you that makes you happy or keeps you company • author: the person who writes a book • company: being together/not alone 	

Let's Find Out About It:

Preparation:

- Flag pages in both books with pictures of multiple family members.
- Flag pages in both books with illustrations of the dogs.
- Flag page in *Peter's Chair* of Peter and Willie outside the house.
- Flag page in *Crybaby* of Roy giving the toy sheep to the baby.
- Print/prepare animal photos.

<p>“We have read two books together, <i>Crybaby</i> and <i>Peter's Chair</i>, and I noticed that in both of these books the families have a dog in them. In <i>Crybaby</i>, they have a dog named Roy, and in <i>Peter's Chair</i>, they have a dog named Willie. Today we are going to talk about different pets that can be part of your family.”</p>	<p>Children had noticed.</p> <p>Show illustration of each dog.</p>
<p>“Pets are animals that live with you either inside or outside your home that are cared for by someone in your family. They keep you company or make you happy in some way. When Peter was feeling sad and decided to run away, Willie went with him and kept him company, so he didn't get too lonely.”</p>	<p>Show illustration of Peter and Willie outside of their house.</p>

<p>“And in <i>Crybaby</i> when the baby was very sad and couldn’t stop crying, Roy brought her the stuffed toy to help her feel happy and to comfort or calm her.”</p>	<p>Show illustration of Roy giving baby the toy sheep.</p>
<p>“Both of these families had dogs as pets, but there are lots of other animals that people can have as part of their family. Can you think of any animals that you or someone else might have as a pet in their family?”</p>	<p>Children respond.</p>
<p>“There are lots of different types of pets that people can have as part of their family. Why might people have pets as part of their family?”</p>	<p>Show pictures (if available) that match the animals children state, and label them/ describe them.</p> <p>Invite children to share their pets’ names and how they care for their pets or how their pets keep them company or make them feel happy.</p>
<p>In the Creative Writing Center, we have been writing the names of our family members. If you would like to write or draw about a pet in your family, you could do that while you are working in that center.”</p>	<p>Children respond.</p>

Provocation:

Add stuffed animals to Dramatic Play.

Ask families to send in family pictures with pets included in them, to discuss or post in the classroom to encourage conversations and/or inspire artwork.

Add images of pets to Creative Writing for children to reference and encourage them to write captions or draw about any pets in their family.