

# Graphing Statistics & Opinions about Pets

Suggested Grade Level: fourth-sixth grade  
Character: Kindness, Respect  
Relative Subject(s): Math

## Objective:

To learn how to use a double bar graph by polling other students about their feelings and experiences with pets. Students will also have the opportunity to think about how pets affect their lives.

## Materials:

- Worksheet: "Statistics and Opinions About Pets"
- Worksheet: "Graph of Pet Poll Results"

## Activity:

### *Preliminary Discussion*

- How many of the students have pets?
- How do pets enrich our lives?
- If you do not have a pet, whom do you know that does?
- What types of positive experiences have you had with pets?
- Why do you think so many people have pets?

### *Procedure*

Explain that each student will work independently on this project. Give them each enough of the worksheets ("Statistics and Opinions About Pets") to interview everyone in the class, individually.

Once they have interviewed everyone, they will create a double bar graph on the graph worksheet ("Graph of Pet Poll Results"). For each category, one bar should be colored solid and one bar should be filled with dots, to differentiate them. Once they have finished their graphs, the class will discuss their findings.

### *Post-Discussion*

- What results did the class have with their graphs? Go over each category and question.
- What was the most surprising result of your findings?
- What was the most interesting result of your findings?
- Overall, what did you learn about how the students in your class feel about pets?

## Extension Activity:

Have the class convert their bar graph into a different type of graph.

## Statistics & Opinions about Pets

Ask each student in the class the following questions about pets:

1. What kinds of pets do you have and how many do you have of each?

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2. If you don't have any pets, who do you know that does, and what kinds of pets do they have?

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3. What do you like about pets?

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4. If you could be a pet, what would you be and why?

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5. What is the most positive experience you have ever had with a pet?

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# Graph of Poll Results

Using the information you gathered, create a double bar graph. For each animal category, draw a solid-colored bar that indicates how many pets everyone has. Draw another bar next to it with dots in it, to indicate what type of pets they would like to be.



Nebraska Humane Society  
8929 Fort Street Omaha, NE 68134 402.444.7800 [www.nehumanesociety.org](http://www.nehumanesociety.org)

Information adapted from the Denver Dumb Friends League