Talks and activities for primary schools

Animal Aid has a network of trained speakers who are available to give talks on a range of animal-related issues including **general animal welfare** and **caring for pets.**

We prefer to run sessions with class-size groups. These can be tailored for age groups from Year 1 to Year 6 and typically last for an hour.

Our speakers make use of a range of resources, including our *AnimalKind* film, puppets, pictures, games and stories. We involve children in a variety of activities including listening, watching, discussion and hands-on activities. Animal Aid does not take live animals into schools.

An Animal Aid speaker runs a session on caring for pets with a class of Year 2 students.

We encourage children to develop a sense of respect and compassion for all animal life and to appreciate that they can play their part in caring for all animals, both domesticated and wild.

Citizenship, PSHE and RE

Inviting an Animal Aid speaker gives students the opportunity to meet and talk with an outside visitor. With KS1 students, we look at the needs of companion animals and discuss how to look after pets in their care. We consider the needs of wild animals and discuss how we can help to protect them.

General animal welfare issues

During the visits, we discuss animals' feelings and capabilities and build on the sense of wonder that most children feel for them.

Sessions on pheasant shooting with two Year 3 classes at Brookfield Junior school, where students were reading Roald Dahl's *Danny The Champion of the World*.

Pet care

At KS1, using toy animals, puppets, pictures and stories, we discuss the needs of companion animals. At KS2, we look at the responsibility that people have towards animals in their care. We talk about why it's better to adopt a rescued animal, rather than buying one from a breeder. We discuss the suitability (or unsuitability) of different animals as pets, and, in particular, why exotic animals such as birds and reptiles are not suitable as companion animals.

AnimalKind

Our speakers use our new *AnimalKind* film. This DVD is part of a resource package which also includes a set of lesson plans and a poster. *AnimalKind* is designed to help primary school students develop a sense of compassion and respect for animals. For more information and to view the film, visit **www.animalkind.org.uk**

How to book a speaker

Please contact the Animal Aid Education Department if you would like to discuss your requirements or book a session. Alternatively, visit **www.animalkind.org.uk**