

WHO WE ARE

Pets in the Classroom is an educational grants program to support school teachers to have aquarium fish or small pets in the classroom.

School teachers have very limited resources for the support of classroom animals. That's why The Pet Care Trust is sponsoring this program to help teachers support pets in the classroom through direct, no-hassle grants. You can obtain a grant or coupon for the purchase of new pets, pet environments or pet food and supplies for existing classroom pets.

The purpose of The Pet Care Trust is to promote public understanding regarding the value of and the right to enjoy companion animals, and to enhance society's knowledge about companion animals through research and education.

Teachers in grades Pre-K through 6 can obtain a grant or coupon for the purchase of new pets, pet environments or pet food and supplies for existing classroom pets.

HOW TO APPLY.

Visit the website at www.petsintheclassroom.org, fill out the application form and tell us about yourself, your students and your classroom. Email it to us, and we'll get back to you with a decision within 7-10 business days. If you qualify, we'll send a coupon directly to you for the support of your classroom pets. That's all there is to it.

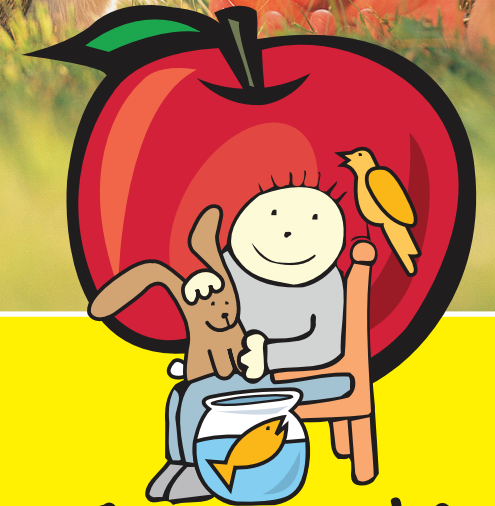
For more information on
Pets in the Classroom, please visit
www.PetsInTheClassroom.org

The Pet Care Trust
is Supported by:



**Pets in the
Classroom**

Pets in the Classroom is sponsored by
The Pet Care Trust and your local pet store:



**Pets in the
Classroom**

**How TEACHERS
can introduce
children to the
benefits of pets**

Why Pets in the Classroom?

PETS BUILD SELF ESTEEM:

Helping to take care of a pet gives a child a sense of pride and accomplishment, especially if the animal is able to return the affection. Shari Young Kuchenbecker, Ph.D., research psychologist at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, says, "The child who cares for a pet knows that what he does matters, and so he'll want to do more of it. The more successfully he



the hamster's water bottle, it's never too early to start teaching children proper animal care.

PETS BECOME FRIENDS:

Animals such as cats, dogs and guinea pigs love human contact and can become a child's best friend. Children can even develop strong bonds with non-responsive animals such as fish or turtles. These relationships help to strengthen a child's social skills, giving them the potential to do better in a

school setting. (*sesameworkshop.org*)

PETS ENCOURAGE NURTURING:

Children soon learn that if they want to be liked and trusted by the family cat, they'll need to treat her carefully and kindly. This sort of training benefits all children.

HEALTH & EDUCATION: It's official. Studies show that children from families with pets are better equipped to fight off infection than those from non-pet households, showing significantly higher levels of immune system performance.



CONDITIONS

The following conditions will apply to all grant requests:

- Pets in the Classroom grants are offered to Pre-Kindergarten through Sixth grade classes only.
- These grants are intended to support pets or aquariums in the classroom for the purposes of teaching children to bond with and care for their pets responsibly. The welfare of the small animals involved is of paramount importance. These grants must not be used for the purposes of research or experiments of any kind.
- Grant money may not be spent for overhead, administration or for any other purpose than to purchase new pets, pet environments or pet food and supplies for existing classroom pets.

- Grants or coupons will be distributed in the amounts of \$50, \$100 or \$150.

New Reptile & Aquatic installations	\$150.00
New Small Animal & Bird installations	\$100.00
Sustaining requests	\$50.00

- Only (1) one grant per teacher is permitted. Teachers may re-apply for a \$50 Sustaining grant each fall through the online, "Sustaining Grant" application.
- Grant approval is at the sole discretion of The Pet Care Trust. Amounts awarded may vary according to monies available at the time of the request.



feeds, walks, or emotionally bonds with the pet, the more confident he'll feel about himself and his environment." In fact, studies conducted by the Waltham Centre have shown that children with pets have higher levels of self-esteem than those without pets.

PETS TEACH RESPONSIBILITY: Even a small child can begin to learn to care for the needs of another living being. Whether helping to empty a cup of dry kibble into the rabbit's bowl, or filling