



CLASSROOM PETS

Safety Guide

School Education

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Checklist Items

KEY BENEFITS

Empathy

Builds empathy and a sense of responsibility through daily care routines.

Observation Skills

Develops observation and inquiry by recording behaviour and growth.

Teamwork

Encourages teamwork and rota management with shared duties.

Hygiene Awareness

Teaches hygiene and biosecurity with safe handling protocols.

KEY HAZARDS & CONTROL MEASURES**Allergies & Health**

- ✓ All student allergies checked before introduction
- ✓ Good ventilation maintained
- ✓ Parents informed and consent obtained
- ✓ Alternative activities for allergic children

Bites & Scratches

- ✓ Safe handling techniques demonstrated
- ✓ Animals not handled when stressed
- ✓ Adult supervision during all handling
- ✓ First aid available for minor injuries

Hygiene & Infection

- ✓ Handwashing mandatory after handling
- ✓ No eating or drinking near animals
- ✓ Regular enclosure cleaning schedule
- ✓ Cleaning supplies stored safely

Enclosure Safety

- ✓ Electrical equipment PAT tested
- ✓ Positioned away from walkways
- ✓ Enclosures secured against escape
- ✓ Emergency procedures for escapes

PRE-SESSION SAFETY CHECKLIST**Risk Assessment**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Complete and review risk assessment for this activity | <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure all identified hazards have control measures in place |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brief all staff on key risks and emergency procedures | |

Setup

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Species approved | <input type="checkbox"/> Allergies checked |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent consent | <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosure suitable |

Daily Care

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food and water | <input type="checkbox"/> Health checked |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning schedule | <input type="checkbox"/> Temperature correct |

Handling

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supervision present | <input type="checkbox"/> Technique demonstrated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hands washed after | <input type="checkbox"/> Animal calm |

Holiday Care

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carer identified | <input type="checkbox"/> Care instructions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transport arranged | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency contact |



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