

Puppy Mill Awareness Lesson Plan

Grade Level / Audience: Elementary School

Lesson Duration: 45–60 minutes

Objective: Help young students understand kindness to animals and where puppies come from.

Materials Needed

- Whiteboard
- Puppy Mill Awareness Worksheet (PDF on website)
- Word Search (PDF on website)
- *Magoo and His Magic Poo* by H.D. Ronay and Michael Harring ([classroom sets/bulk orders: https://form.jotform.com/250306519332147](https://form.jotform.com/250306519332147))

What is a Puppy Mill?

A puppy mill is a place where many dogs are kept in small, dirty cages, have many puppies, and do not get to go to a doctor. This is not kind or healthy for the dogs.

If you buy a puppy, this is likely where it came from. Its mom and dad are forced to stay behind at the puppy mill.

Story Time & Discussion

Imagine a mom dog living in a small cage with no toys or comfy bed. She has lots of puppies but never gets to play, never gets love, and never gets to go outside.

- How does that make you feel?
- What would you do to help the mom dog?

Ways We Can Help

- Be kind to animals
- Adopt pets from shelters, don't buy them online or from a pet store
- Ask a grown-up where the puppy comes from
- Tell other grown-ups and friends about this lesson

Activity: See “Puppy Mill Awareness Worksheet” and Word Search attachments. Recap below:

Circle the things that show kindness to animals:

- a. Giving a dog fresh water
- b. Leaving a dog alone in a small cage
- c. Playing gently with a puppy
- d. Adopting a pet from a shelter

Circle the reasons why a dog would not want to be at a puppy mill:

- a. It will be loved and taken care of
- b. It will not get to play or go outside
- c. It will have to leave its mom and dad behind
- d. It will always have fresh food and water

Circle the things you should do if you want a new puppy:

- a. Tell a grown-up about how puppy mills are bad
- b. Ask a grown-up to adopt a puppy from a shelter
- c. Buy a puppy from online
- d. Buy a puppy from a pet store

- **“Adopt” the puppies coloring page**
- **Word search**