

Mrs. Crump's Cat

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RedRover Readers Program Objective 4: Lesson 4C

Goals and Objectives: Understand how relationships with animals or people can serve as a social support; and understand how the decisions people make and how people treat others impact individual lives, communities and society.

Time: 35 minutes (25 reading and discussion, 10 role play activity)

Materials: Anchor text (“Mrs. Crump’s Cat”), poster board and markers

1. Before Reading: As a class, discuss the following topics:

- What does “stray” mean? Have you ever seen a stray cat?
- Whose yellow cat is shown? What do you think will happen in this story?

2. During Reading: Read the book to the class. Pause on different pages and discuss the story.

- On the page where the cat is rubbing against Mrs. Crump’s legs, ask “How do you think Mrs. Crump feels in this picture?” “How do you know?” “How do you think the cat feels?” “Why do you think that?”
- On the page that begins, “I smell rain.” Ask, “What is starting to happen?”
- What do you notice about Mrs. Crump’s face throughout the story?

3. After Reading: Review the story’s illustrations with students and reinforce and extend their understanding of the text:

- When a person finds a cat, what choices do they have? What might have happened to the cat if Mrs. Crump did not take the cat in? How would the neighborhood have been different if the cat were still a stray?
- How (in what ways) could the companionship of a cat benefit a person? A whole neighborhood?
- What would you have done if a cat came to your house?
- How do you think Mrs. Crump felt before the stray cat came into her life? How do you think she feels now?

4. Research Activity: As access to the Internet permits, encourage students to research the benefits of having a cat and create posters explaining the benefits of having a cat. Allow time for students to share their posters with the class.

5. At the End of the Lesson: Ask students to reflect on these questions. Try this with the whole group, in a sharing circle or ask students to fill out index cards.

- How did you feel about today’s book and discussion? Did today’s book and discussion change how you think about anything in your life? What did you learn from today’s book and discussion that you didn’t know before?

6. Report about your reading: Please share your students’ response in your online report by going to RedRover.org/teach, and click on the link near top of the page that reads [\[Report about your reading\]](#)

