



## Elsie the Cat

Session for 5 to 8 year olds  
Lasts for approximately one hour

### Key focus for the session

To find out about the needs of a companion animal.

Links to The National Curriculum in science and English Key Stages 1 and 2.

### Preparation and Resources

Access to the *Animal Kind film* at [www.animalkind.org.uk](http://www.animalkind.org.uk)

Print off *Elsie the Cat Activity Sheet*. If you don't have a printer, roughly copy the layout of the sheet.

Pencils and crayons or coloured pens

### Introduction

Tell the children that you'll be showing them a film about animals that includes a piece about Elsie, a rescued cat who lives at an animal sanctuary. They will find out about all kinds of animals but the main focus for this session is cats.

### The Animal Kind Film

First show the Animal Kind film, which is in three parts. At the end of each part there is an important question for the children to consider. Pause the film at the points where these questions appear on the screen:

- Can you think of any other amazing things that animals can do and we can't?
- What are some of the feelings that you and animals share?
- What are the ways that you can help animals and be Animal Kind?

At these discussion points, chat with your children and try to stretch their imagination. What amazing things can Elsie do and what feelings might she have? How can the children help the cats they meet?

Following the film, ask the children whether they spotted any other cats and what they were doing. Ask whether any of the children know a cat. If so, can they share some things they do?

Remind the children that Elsie was hit by a car and injured. Ask them how they'd make sure Elsie was safe. Discuss having a quiet, safe space for a cat, especially if there are children in the house. Discuss what Elsie would enjoy and what she would eat and drink.

### Elsie the Cat Activity Sheet

Hand out Elsie the Cat Activity Sheets and support the children in answering the questions using words and/or pictures. Use crayons or pens to colour in the picture.

### Conclusion

Cats and other animals have many abilities that we don't have. They have emotional and physical needs and experience feelings that are similar to our own.



We've set up a Facebook page to support the Animal Kind project. Why not post your child's picture of Elsie to our page? We'd love to see it and you may enjoy seeing pictures from other children. We'll be sure to comment.

[www.facebook.com/animalkindeducation](http://www.facebook.com/animalkindeducation)





# Elsie the Cat

Where does she sleep?

Where does she play?

What does she really like doing?

What does she drink?

What does she eat?



My name is

.....

I am Animal Kind

