# Classroom Pet

Grade 3

Name _____ Date _____

**Remember: Opinion writing** tells what **you think** and **why**. Use **OREO**: state your **O**pinion, give **R**easons, add **E**xamples, then say your **O**pinion again.

**Opinion words:** *I think ... I believe ... In my opinion ... because ... For example ... That is why ...*



## 1. Fact or opinion?

Strong opinion writing uses facts as evidence. Circle **fact** or **opinion**.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Hamsters need fresh water every day. | fact | opinion |
| 2 | Hamsters are the cutest class pets. | fact | opinion |
| 3 | Some people are allergic to animal fur. | fact | opinion |
| 4 | Every class would be happier with a pet. | fact | opinion |
| 5 | Fish live in water. | fact | opinion |
| 6 | Taking care of a pet is the best classroom job. | fact | opinion |

## 2. Opinion and reason

Circle the best answer.

**1. Which sentence states a clear opinion?**

- (a) Some classes have fish.
- (b) Pets need food.
- (c) I believe every classroom should have a class pet.

**2. Which is the strongest reason for having a class pet?**

- (a) Pets are cool.
- (b) Caring for a pet teaches students to be responsible.
- (c) I saw a pet once.

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## 3. Plan with OREO

**Prompt:** Should every classroom have a class pet? Plan your answer.

**O – Opinion: what do you think?**

**R – Reason 1**

**E – Example for reason 1**

**R – Reason 2**

**E – Example for reason 2**

**O – Opinion again**

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## 4. Write your opinion paragraph

Use your OREO plan.

**Prompt:** Should every classroom have a class pet?

**Check:** ☐ Clear opinion ☐ Two reasons ☐ An example for each ☐ Linking words ☐ Opinion restated at the end

# Answer Key

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## 1. Fact or opinion?

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Hamsters need fresh water every day. | **fact** | opinion |
| 2 | Hamsters are the cutest class pets. | fact | **opinion** |
| 3 | Some people are allergic to animal fur. | **fact** | opinion |
| 4 | Every class would be happier with a pet. | fact | **opinion** |
| 5 | Fish live in water. | **fact** | opinion |
| 6 | Taking care of a pet is the best classroom job. | fact | **opinion** |

## 2. Opinion and reason

**1. Which sentence states a clear opinion?**

a. Some classes have fish.
b. Pets need food.
**c. I believe every classroom should have a class pet.**

**2. Which is the strongest reason for having a class pet?**

a. Pets are cool.
**b. Caring for a pet teaches students to be responsible.**
c. I saw a pet once.

## 3. Plan with OREO

*Sample notes. Answers will vary.*

**O – Opinion: what do you think?**
Every classroom should have a class pet.

**R – Reason 1**
A class pet teaches responsibility.

**E – Example for reason 1**
Each week, two students feed our hamster and clean the cage.

**R – Reason 2**
Pets help us learn science.

**E – Example for reason 2**
We kept a chart of how much our hamster ate and slept.

**O – Opinion again**
That is why every class should have a pet.

# Model Answer

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## 4. Write your opinion paragraph

*A model answer to share with students. Their writing will be different.*

I believe every classroom should have a class pet. First, a pet teaches students to be responsible. For example, in our class, two students feed our hamster and clean his cage every week, and nobody ever forgets. A class pet also helps us learn science. We kept a chart of how much Nibbles ate and slept, and we learned that hamsters are awake at night. That is why every class should have a pet.