

GROW YOUR PALS PROGRAM GUIDE



THE NATIONAL FFA MENTORING PROGRAM

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LESSON 28

Animal Feed Needs

Unit:
ANIMAL SCIENCE

PRECEPTS

- G. Physical Growth
 - G1. Practice Healthy Eating Habits

NATIONAL STANDARDS

- NL-ENG. K-12.2 Reading for Understanding
- NPH-H.K-4.3 Reducing Health Risks



Lesson Type:
Large Group

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

As a result of this lesson, the student will ...

1. Read and interpret information listed on a pet food label.
2. Compare pet food products.





TIME

Instruction time for this lesson: **30 minutes.**



RESOURCES

None



TOOLS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

- ✓ 3-4 pet food packages for the same type of pet (all samples should be dry or canned)
- ✓ paper
- ✓ writing utensil
- ✓ paper towels (to clean up)
- ✓ PALS.28.AS.A – 1 per student
- ✓ PALS.28.Assess.A – 1 per student



KEY TERMS

The following terms are presented in this lesson and appear in ***bold italics***:

feed
ingredients

INTEREST APPROACH

Use the Cartographer Moment with the students and have them draw the foods they enjoy.



Think about your favorite types of food. Take three minutes to draw pictures of your favorite foods.

Discuss with the students the importance of making healthy food choices.



We are very lucky to have a wide variety of foods to choose from in the United States; however, it is important that we follow certain guidelines to have a healthy diet. Too much of any one type of food is not good. A healthy diet includes a variety of foods.

What foods should be included in our diet?

What foods should we avoid?



What are the recommended servings of vegetables in a day? ($2\frac{1}{2}$ cups)

Fruits? ($1\frac{1}{2}$ cups)

Milk? (3 cups)

Meat and beans? (5 ounces)

Grains? (6 ounces)

Fats and sugars? (limited)



The same goes for our pets' diets. There are a wide variety of foods available for pets on the market today. Some of them are a better choice for our pets than others because they are healthier.

Today we are going to select foods for a pet.

SUMMARY OF CONTENT AND TEACHING STRATEGIES

OBJECTIVE 1. | Read and interpret information listed on a pet food label.



Provide a sample pet food label and help the students identify the important information. Discuss the information below about feed and ingredients for a more thorough understanding of the food labels.

I. Food for animals is referred to as **Feed**. Feed labels must include:

Ingredients – A list of items that are included in the feed.

B. The type of pet it is intended for.

C. A list of nutrients.

D. The size of package.

E. The recommended serving size for a pet.



Using this sample label, let's find the required information on a feed label.

Have a discussion about the sample label. Ask about the required information and why it is important.



Now that you know how to read a feed label, let's pretend we are going to the store to shop for pet food. We would not only have to be able to read a label, but also compare several options and decide which one to buy.

OBJECTIVE 2. | Compare pet food products.



Using PALS.28.AS.A, you will help students compare three pet foods you have provided. Pretend that you are at a store and are trying to figure out which would be best for your pet.



Here are three pet foods I brought from the store. Using the activity sheet first, we will compare the feed labels and figure out which would be the best food for our pet.



Identify the following information about the pet foods and place it on the chart on AS.A:

II. Information to compare on labels.

- ⦿ Price – how much the container costs.
- ⦿ Serving Size – how much should be fed to the pet.
- ⦿ Weight of a serving – how much a serving weighs.
- ⦿ Price of a serving – the price of the package divided by the number of servings in it.
- ⦿ Target age – the age of pet the food is intended for.
- ⦿ Protein – amount of protein in the feed.
- ⦿ Fat – amount of fat in the feed.
- ⦿ Fiber – amount of fiber in the feed.
- ⦿ First five ingredients – ingredients are listed in order from what the feed contains the most of to the least.
- ⦿ Moisture content – the amount of water in the feed.



What makes you like some foods more than others?

Anticipated answers: Assumed taste, appearance, etc.



Not only is the information on the label important, but it also has to taste and look good. Let's compare the actual feeds.

III. Compare the feed on:

1. Texture
2. Smell
3. Appearance



Take a look at your chart. Rank the foods in order that you would purchase them and explain why you ranked them in that order.

Discuss with your mentee what was most important to them when selecting a pet food and have them explain why.



REVIEW / SUMMARY

Use the Hole-in-One Moment to help your mentee make a mental image of them selecting pet food at the store.



We have talked a lot about what we should look for when we select food for a pet. Close your eyes and imagine your pet, what pet is it? Pretend you are going down the pet food aisle, pick up a bag of feed, what are you looking for? Why is that important?

Continue to ask guiding questions as you walk them through the store.

APPLICATION

Continued Discussion/Activity: *Compare and contrast the food labels on human foods and pet foods. What are the similarities and differences?*



One-on-One Suggestion: *Take your mentee to the store and put his or her new skills to the test. Give your mentee information about a virtual pet, and then have him or her select the best food for that pet.*



EVALUATION

Have the students complete Assess.A to gain a better understanding of reading a pet food label.

ANSWERS TO EVALUATION:

Answers vary depending on the pet food selected.

PALS.28. AS.A

Directions: Complete the chart using the information on the feed packages provided.

	Feed 1	Feed 2	Feed 3
Price			
Serving size			
Weight of one serving			
Price of one serving			
Target age			
Protein content			
Fat content			
Fiber content			
First five ingredients			
Moisture content			
Texture			
Smell			
Appearance			

PALS.28. ASSESS.A

Directions: Using the pet food label, complete the questions.

(Insert a sample feed label to the right of the questions)

1. List the first five ingredients in this feed.

2. What animal is this feed intended for?

3. What is the protein content of this feed?

4. What is the fat content of this feed?

5. What is the fiber content of this feed?
