

Notes to the Teacher

What is animal-friendly figurative language?

Animal-friendly figurative language is the intentional use of language to express the feelings, intelligence, and agency of animals. To foster empathy in the classroom (and beyond), encourage students to use animal-friendly language to understand that animals are like us—they deserve respect and want to experience the beauty of relationships, joy, peace, and comfort. This practice can also naturally spark conversations about how the words we choose shape our thinking—helping students recognize that inclusive, respectful language matters for both animals and humans (e.g., “a student with autism” instead of “an autistic student,” or “firefighter” instead of “fireman”).

Examples of Animal-Friendly Figurative Language

Simile: a comparison using “like” or “as”

The rescued rabbits slept **like logs** after playing all day.

Metaphor: a comparison not using “like” or “as”

Rescued after being forced to race in the Iditarod, Kelly the dog is **showered with love** in her new home.

Idiom: common phrasing with a meaning that’s not literal

By planting a school garden that helps pollinators and provides fresh food, the class is **feeding two birds with one stone**.

Hyperbole: extreme exaggeration

Now that Victor lives safely inside and away from the freezing cold, his purrs **could be heard from the moon!**

Alliteration: repeating the same initial consonant sound

At the sanctuary, the **g**oats **g**raze on **g**reen **g**lass.

Onomatopoeia: words resembling the sound they describe

The drums echoed **“Boom! Boom!”** as the students demanded that the laboratory stop testing on animals.

See more TeachKind animal-friendly idioms at TeachKind.org/Animal-Friendly-Idioms.

How to Cut and Assemble the Flipbook

1. Cut along the bottom line on each page where you see the scissors icon.
 2. Staple the pages together at the top to secure the flipbook.
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Common Core Standards Addressed: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.3, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.5.A, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.5.B, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.10, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.5.5.A, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.5.5.B, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.5.6, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.5.10, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.4, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6.5.A, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.2, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.3, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.1, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.4

TeachKind

Animal-Friendly Figurative Language Flipbook

Name: _____ Date: _____





Animal-friendly figurative language is _____

It's important for us to use animal-friendly language because _____

About Animal-Friendly Figurative Language









Definition _____

Three Sample Sentences _____

Illustration

Hyperbole





Definition

Three Sample Sentences

Illustration

Alliteration





Definition _____

Three Sample Sentences _____

Illustration

Onomatopoeia