



LESSON PLAN

To Be Integrated into Character
Education Curriculum

- TITLE:** Shilo
- LESSON DESCRIPTION:** Students will address questions about the proper treatment of animals, discuss situations, if any, they have encountered that involve abuse and neglect and form opinions and feelings about animal abuse.
- GRADE / COURSE:** Grades 6 – 8; Social Science
- CBC COMPONENT:** SS.A.13.2, SS.C.1.31, SS.C.13.2, SS.C.13.5
- CORE VALUES EMPHASIZED:** Honesty, Citizenship
- SUGGESTED TIME:** 1 class period
- MATERIALS NEEDED:** Copy(ies) of the book *Shilo* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor; discussion question sheet.
- DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES:**
1. Read the first two chapters as a class, taking turns reading out loud and rephrasing the language as needed. This will familiarize the students with the unique language of the book as well as stimulate interest in the story.
 2. Assign some questions to be written and reserve some for class discussions.
 3. Ask students if anyone has witnessed animal abuse or knows of any occurring now.
 4. Ask students to define and give examples of animal abuse and discuss less obvious types like not providing clean and plentiful water and food, sufficient shelter or attention.
 5. Discuss what to do and what not to do if you suspect that an animal is being abused: Call the Police Department, the Humane Society, PETA or the Miami-Dade County Animal Services Department.
 6. Talk about neglect as a form of abuse



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TITLE: Shilo (continued)

ASSESSMENT STRATEGY: How innovative, sensitive and realistic were the student's responses?

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES: Show the movie that has been made from the book. Have students read the sequel.

Questions about SHILO

1. How do you think Marty handled the situation with Judd?
Page 27
2. What do you think Marty's dad thinks of Shilo?
Page 35
3. How do you feel about what Marty did?
Page 45
4. Was it right of Marty to lie to Judd?
Page 57
5. Have Marty's lies caught up with him? Do you think he can fool everyone much longer?
Page 60
6. Why do you think Judd mistreats his dogs?
Page 64
7. Do you think that you would lie, like Marty has, to save an abused dog?
Page 70
8. Do you agree that there should be laws against abusing animals? Why or why not?
Page 82
9. How do you feel about what Marty's father says about the law?
Page 94
10. Do you think that Marty is as concerned for Shilo's safety or is he just attached to having a dog?
Page 104
11. Could Marty be wrong about Judd?
Page 111
12. Essay question: After reading this story, what do you think you would do if you discovered a situation in which you thought an animal was being abused or neglected?