**Lesson Plan for Invasive Species AWARE Lesson – Cats and Dogs (45mins)**

**Prior Skills and Knowledge:**

* Understand that they play a role in their community.
* Work well together in groups.
* Understand the terms invasive species and biosecurity.

**Instructional Objectives:**

At the end of the lesson, students will able to:

* Understand the term free-ranging.
* Learn about the origins of cats and dogs.
* Understand the negative impacts of these animals on public and people health and safety.
* Learn about ways to manage free-ranging cats and dogs.
* Use the skills of self-management, responsible decision-making and problem-solving and exhibit the values of care, respect and social-awareness.

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| **Resource Preparation Guide** | | |
| Item no. | Description | Remarks |
| 1. | Computer, Projector, Powepoint slides. | For showing of powerpoint slides / Slides to be printed out – 1 copy per 4 students if computer/projector not available. |
| 2. | Board or Paper and markers | To use for recording student – teacher interactions during lesson. |
| 3. | Paper and colouring materials | To be used for poster design. |

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| **Est Time** | **Learning and Development** | **Resources** |
| 2 mins | **Tuning in**  Slide 1 - 2:  Teacher to introduce the lesson and the lesson outcomes for the day. | Computer, Project, Slides |
| 3 mins | **Introduction**  Slide 3:  Teacher to introduce what a free-ranging animal is:   * A free-ranging animal is an animal that is not confined to a yard of house. * They are allowed to move anywhere they want freely. * They include feral animals that were once domesticated but has since returned to the wild. * These animals include dogs and cats.   Teacher to ask the questions:   1. Have you seen free-ranging cats and dogs before? 2. How do you know they are free-ranging? | Computer, Project, Slides, Board/Paper and markers |
| 10 mins | **Development 1**  Slide 4:  Teacher to share the origins of cats and dogs:   * Dogs were introduced to Oceania around 3,300 years. They were introduced (along with pigs, chickens and Pacific rats) for both companionship and food as they settled across the region. * Humans and cats have co-existed for millennia. Cats are valued companions and a source of wellbeing for owners. As a result, cats can now be found almost everywhere across the globe. |
| Slide 5:  Teacher to share the problems caused by free-ranging cats:   * Cats prey on birds and small mammals as well as reptiles, and amphibians on Pacific islands. They have been involved in at least 14% of all bird, mammal and reptile extinctions. * Cats are also a threat to public health. They are carriers of a parasite. * The parasite is accidentally ingested by people through ingestion of contaminated undercooked meat.     Teacher to ask the questions:   1. Has anyone seen cats attacking wildlife before? 2. How did you feel when you saw it? |
| Slide 6:  Teacher to share the problems caused by free-ranging cats:   * Free-ranging Dogs have been reported as being a significant threat to public health and safety. * As well as causing injury to people as a result of bites and attacks, they also carry diseases. * They are a public nuisance because of the barking noise and fighting especially at night. * Free-roaming dogs are also an animal health and welfare issue. They face high mortality, malnutrition, starvation, disease, and abuse. * They tend to be aggressive and wander in packs.   Teacher to ask the questions:   1. Has anyone been frightened by stray dogs before? 2. How would you feel if the dogs kept barking? |
| Slide 7:  Teacher to share how to manage these animals:   * Promote responsible pet ownership to reduce the number of free-ranging cats and dogs. * Encourage people not to feed free-ranging cats and dogs and reduce access to household food waste. * Educate people not to abandon pets. * Establish cat and dog shelters.   Teacher to ask the questions:   1. Who owns cats or dogs or both at home? 2. Do you allow them to go wherever they want? 3. Why can you do at home now that you know this problem exists? |
| 20 mins  5mins | **Development 2 – Poster Design Acitivity**  Slide 8:  Teacher introduces the poster design activity.  Slide 9:  Teacher to go through the instructions with the students.   * You will be grouped into groups of 2-3. * You will be given 20mins to complete a poster with one or more of the following themes:   + Do not abandon your pets!   + Do not feed free-ranging cats and dogs!   + Reduce food wastage! * You can draw, colour and write your messages on the poster. * You have 20mins for the design   Slide 10:  Teacher to lead the class in displaying their posters and gallery walk. | Computer, Project, Slides, Paper and colouring materials. |
| 5 min | **Conclusion**  Slide 11:  Teacher to recap the lesson key points:   * A free-ranging animal is an animal that is not confined to a yard of house. * They include feral animals such as cats and dogs that were once domesticated but has since returned to the wild. * Cats and dogs were introduced as companions for humans. * Free-ranging cats and dogs are a threat to public and human safety as well as the natural environment. * Responsible pet-ownership and setting up of cat and dog shelters are some of the best ways to manage these animals. | Computer, Project, Slides |

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