

◆ Lesson 5

New Friends

What Do You Know?

In the story “New Friends” Nathan and his mother do their best to raise three new pets—a baby chicken and two kittens. Think about pets.



Answer the following questions.

1. What is the best kind of pet?

Why?

2. How many pets would you like to have?

3. Where is the best place for a big pet dog?

Mark an X on the line next to your answer.

in a small apartment

on a farm

4. Which of the following animals would *not* be good pets? Circle your answers.

bear fish puppy

rabbit elephant cat

“New Friends” starts on the next page. Read the story to find out whether all Nathan’s new pets can be friends.




New Friends

Nathan and Mrs. Adams needed to make a place for the two kittens that were lost. Nathan and his mother were happy to help the kittens. They had to make a good place for the kittens to stay in the house.

Nathan's mother asked him, "Will you look for a big basket and a box for the kittens, Nathan? They will need the basket to sleep in. They need a box for a cat box too."

Nathan looked around the house. When he found the basket and box, he showed them to his mother.



“This basket and this box will be good for the kittens. Now put the basket and the box in the room where the baby chicken stays,” said Mrs. Adams.

Nathan did as his mother asked. He took the basket and the box he found and put them in the big room.

Nathan took food and water to the kittens too. Now they had all they needed.

“Now you can play with the kittens,” Mrs. Adams said to Nathan. “They will like this little blue ball.”

Nathan took the toy to the kittens. They played and played with it. They liked to run around the house too. When Nathan did not carefully watch the door to the big room, the kittens ran out.

Nathan said to them, “You are too little to run around a big house. You can stay in the big room for now.” Then he put them back in the room, and they ran around it.

As the kittens ran and played in the big room, they found a tub. The tub had the baby chicken in it. The kittens wanted to get in the tub.



Nathan watched as the kittens ran to the tub and jumped into it.

The little chicken in the tub was surprised. It had not seen a kitten before. It backed away from the kittens. The kittens were surprised too. They had not seen a baby chicken before. They backed away from the chicken.

“Mother,” Nathan called. “The kittens jumped into the tub with the chicken! What do I do?”

“Can you carefully get the kittens out of the tub?” his mother asked.


Nathan took out one kitten and said, “I can.” Then he took out the other kitten.

Then Nathan asked his mother, “Can the kittens stay in that room with the chicken now?”

“They are all surprised right now. Watch and see what they do,” said Mrs. Adams.

All day the kittens played and ran around the room as the baby chicken was eating and sleeping in the tub. All three looked happy.

Then Mrs. Adams said, “Today was a big day for the three animals here. They can sleep now, and you can go to bed too.”



Nathan looked to see that the animals had all they needed before bed.

“You can look in on the animals in the morning,” said Mrs. Adams. Then Nathan went to bed.

In the morning Nathan ran to see the animals in the big room. He was happy when he looked in the room. He was surprised at what he saw.

He saw no kittens sleeping in the basket. But he did see the chicken sleeping in the tub and the kittens sleeping with it. The three animals looked happy sleeping together.

“Look, Mother,” Nathan said. “There is a surprise for you in the big room this morning.”

“What is it?” Mrs. Adams asked.

“Come with me,” said Nathan. And he and his mother walked to the big room together.

“Now look in the tub,” he said.

Mrs. Adams looked in the tub. She was happy to see the little animals sleeping together. “It looks like the kittens and the little chicken are happy here together,” she said. And they were.

What Did You Find?

Mark an X on the line in front of the correct answer.

1. Nathan found a _____ for the kittens to sleep in.
_____ barn
_____ tub
_____ basket
2. Nathan and his mother put the kittens _____.
_____ in the same room as the chicken
_____ in Nathan's bedroom
_____ in a box next to the chicken house
3. The kittens played with a _____.
_____ brown box
_____ little blue ball
_____ toy mouse
4. The chicken was _____ when the kittens jumped into the tub.
_____ angry
_____ surprised
_____ happy
5. Nathan was surprised to see the kittens and the chicken _____.
_____ sleeping together
_____ playing with the blue ball
_____ jumping out of the tub

◆ Classifying and Categorizing

When you read, you can think of things that are like each other. You can put these things together, or *classify* them, in groups called *categories*. Sometimes you can group categories into larger categories.

How can you classify the following characters from “New Friends”?

Nathan the chicken the kittens Mrs. Adams

The chicken and the kittens can be put into a group called Animals. Nathan and Mrs. Adams are in a group called People.

Animals	People
the chicken	Nathan
the kittens	Mrs. Adams

Some animals walk on four legs. Some animals have wings. Use the following animal names to complete the chart below.

pigs horses ducks

Animals with Four Legs	Animals with Wings
kittens	3.
1.	chickens
2.	bluebirds

◆ Writing Using Classifying and Categorizing

Read the categories in the box below. Write each category name above the group of words that belong in that category.

Food for animals
Things animals can play with
Places to put baby animals

1.

a ball
a toy
other animals

2.

corn
grass
fish

3.

in a box
in a tub
in a basket