

Don't Let It Loose: School Audit Sample Datasheet

Below is a hypothetical datasheet for a school audit, including sample questions and care plans. Use these examples to build your own to suit your school.

	Classroom 1	Classroom 2	Classroom 3	Classroom 4	Office and Staff Rooms	Common Spaces	Schoolyard
Species	Name 1	Name 2, 3	Name 4	Name 5, 6	Principal, VP		
Pets	Hamlet the guinea pig		3 baby bunnies				
Aquarium						Freshwater tank with moss balls and goldfish	
Terrarium		Venus fly traps, insects, and toad					
Potted Plants					Tropical house plants		
Other							Garden boxes with daffodils and vegetables

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Sample Questions

- What type of animal or plant is it? (Get common names and scientific names, if possible).
- What aquatic plants are in the aquarium?
- Why did you decide to get this pet or plant for the classroom?
- Who will care for the animals/plants during the holidays and summer break?
- How is the water in the aquarium changed? (Where is the old water discarded?)

Sample Care Plans

Classroom 1: Hamlet the guinea pig is the teacher's pet! She spends the school year in the classroom but goes back to the teacher's home in the summer.

Classroom 3: The 3 bunnies were given to the classroom by a student whose pet rabbit had babies. The teacher offered to have them as class pets. There isn't a plan as to who will take them over spring break or in the summer. Some students thought that they could be let free since there are so many cute wild rabbits in the fields near our school, so they would have a family and wouldn't be lonely. We will share Don't Let it Loose messages and our posters with this class and help them to come up with other ideas for the bunnies.

Aquarium in the hallway: The new Principal wasn't sure who takes care of the aquarium in the summer. We let shared the Don't Let it Loose message with her and told her about the problem of goldfish that were let free into ponds that are now eating up native species. And also that there could be invasive zebra mussels in the aquarium plants! She wants us to share our message at the next assembly and to help come up with a plan for the aquarium this summer!

Schoolyard: The garden boxes are watered and weeded by the Kindergarteners once a week. They won't be growing anything over the summer and the boxes will be emptied and new soil supplemented in the fall.

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