



Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

Only Adorable Animals Matter? A Debate

An activity of "Earth's health depends on more than cute animals"

Read "Earth's health depends on more than cute animals" (page 16–17, *What's Up* March 2020).

A debate is a formal argument about a particular subject. In a formal debate, there are two teams. Each team presents its argument in a clear and organised way. Conduct a debate in class.

THE MOTION

That animal rights groups should continue to use animals that are adorable instead of "ugly" to help raise awareness about animal issues.

1. Split your class into two. One half will serve as Proposition, and the other half as Opposition. Proposition: your side says the motion is true. Opposition: your side says the motion is false.

2. Based on which side you belong in, discuss and fill in the following:

Our side is the PROPOSITION / OPPOSITION. (*circle one)

This means we believe that _____

3. Use three main arguments to convince the other side that you are right.

Argument 1
Argument 2
Argument 3

4. Next, select four speakers to be your side's debating team.

Role	Name	Tasks (within ten minutes per speaker)
Speaker 1		Introduce your team's stand. Deliver argument 1.
Speaker 2		Deliver argument 2. Challenge any point(s) that your opposing team has made
Speaker 3		Deliver argument 3. Challenge any point(s) that your opposing team has made
Speaker 4		Challenge any point(s) that your opposing team has made Summarise and conclude your team's arguments.

5. Conduct the debate. Have a time keeper: each speaker gets ten minutes.

6. As a whole class, have a conversation about what this experience meant to you.