

Social Scenario #7

Fur-ever Friend or Ruff Decision?

'I'm not sure if a dog is the answer. Can you help?'

Step into the shoes of Mrs. Anderson, a caring parent. After reading her story, gather in your groups and think about what she should do next. Remember, every choice has its own set of fun times and challenges. You've got 1 hour to think and chat before sharing your thoughts with the class!



Read the scenario below and help Mrs. Anderson decide.

Mrs. Anderson's kids have one big wish: they want a pet dog! They've talked about it every day, shown her pictures of cute puppies, and even promised to help take care of it. They say having a dog will be super fun, and they can play with it all day. They have found a dog in the local pet sanctuary who needs saving.

But Mrs. Anderson knows that while dogs are lovely, they're also a big responsibility. Dogs need daily walks, regular vet check-ups, and lots of love and attention. They're not just for a few days or even a few years, but for a long time – almost 20 years! She wonders if her children understand this long-term commitment.

On the other hand, Mrs. Anderson also knows that having a pet can teach kids about responsibility, kindness, and the joy of friendship. It's not just about play; it's about learning to care for another living being.

RESPONSIBILITY is when we understand the things that we must do and we act upon it.



Mrs. Anderson



'I want my kids to be happy, but I also want to make sure we're ready for such a big step.'

Her kids



'We promise to take care of the dog and be its best friends!'

The dog



'I want a loving home where I'm cared for and have fun!'

Here are some questions to help you think:

- Why do Mrs. Anderson's kids want a dog so much?
- What are some fun things about having a dog? What are some challenges?
- How can a pet help kids learn and grow?
- Is there a way for the family to experience having a dog before making a long-term decision?
- What if the kids lose interest after a while? What would Mrs. Anderson do?
- Could there be other pets that might be a good fit for the family?
- How can Mrs. Anderson talk to her kids about the responsibility of having a pet?
- What happens if they decide not to get a dog right now? Can they reconsider in the future?

Key Vocabulary

Dog	Pet
Responsibility	Care
Decision	Play
Commitment	Family
Learn	Friendship

