

Name _____ Date _____

SOMEONE, NOT SOMETHING



Needs	Things animals require in order to survive and be healthy, including food, water, shelter, and the freedom to roam and interact with others as well as veterinary care in some cases
Wants	Things all animals require to be happy, including their favorite foods and activities

Directions: Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

Walking home from school one day, Lilly spotted something moving in the tall grass near the pond behind her house. She carefully approached the water's edge and peered in between the blades of grass, where she discovered a tiny frog. "You're not something," Lilly exclaimed. "You're someone!"

Lilly gently picked up the frog and carried him home. Lilly's mother was not surprised when her daughter arrived home with the frog—they both loved animals—but she knew that like all animals, frogs need certain things in order to survive. So she called their family vet to find out exactly what their new little guest needed to be healthy and happy.

"Frogs do not make good companion animals," the vet explained. "They need a special place to live with lots of space and plenty of healthy food and water. Like all wild animals, they belong in their natural habitat, where all of these needs, as well as their wants, can be met."

"Wants?" Lilly's mother asked. "What do frogs want?"

"Well," the vet began. "Just like you and me, frogs want to be free. They want to be able to choose what foods to eat and where to raise their families. In fact, some frogs even use 'babysitters' to watch over their eggs until they hatch."

"Wow!" Lilly's mother said. "I had no idea how similar we all are." She thanked the vet and hung up the phone.

"What did the vet say?" Lilly asked eagerly. "Can we keep him?"

Lilly's mother sat down next to her daughter and hugged her. "Imagine if someone took you away from your home and your family," she said. "How would that make you feel?"

Lilly was sad to say goodbye to her new friend but understood that a house was no home for a frog or any other wild animal. "He's someone," Lilly told her mother. "Not something."

The next morning, Lilly's mother walked her to school. On the way, they stopped by the pond, and Lilly walked to the tall grass by the water's edge. She gently placed the frog in between the blades of grass, where she had found him the day before, and she and her mother watched as he hopped into the water.

Name _____ Date _____

A FROG'S NEEDS AND WANTS

Directions: Based on the passage and your knowledge of needs and wants, create a list of the things frogs need in order to survive and be healthy and the things they want in order to be happy.

A Frog's Needs	A Frog's Wants

MY NEEDS AND WANTS

Directions: Create a list of the things you need in order to survive and be healthy and the things you want in order to be happy.

My Needs	My Wants

Circle all the needs that you and frogs have in common. Next, underline all the wants you have in common.

Name _____ Date _____

SOMEONE, NOT SOMETHING

Imagine if all your needs were met but you could never see your family again.
How would that make you feel?

We know that if their needs aren't met, humans and frogs—and all other living beings—can become sick or even die. But why is it important to be able to have the things we want as well?

Animals can't tell us when they're hurting or when they need help. Imagine if you couldn't use your words to tell others when you were hurting or needed help.
How would that make you feel?
