Dear Families,

Our class will be participating in "Share the World" Week during the week of _____. We'll be discussing ways to show kindness and empathy for all living beings, including animals, as well as taking part in compassionate activities. Kids who are taught to be kind to animals tend to be more empathetic toward their peers. You can help your child cultivate compassion for animals at home by doing these things together:

- Spend quality time with your animal companions. Playing with them, gently brushing or petting them, and giving them exercise are great ways to bond. If you don't have an animal companion at home, offer to walk a neighbor's dog or look after a neighbor's cat.

- Quietly observe animals in nature from a distance. Explain to your child that it's unkind to chase, harass, or remove them from their natural habitat.

- Help prevent birds from striking your windows! Cut shapes (like leaves) out of pieces of dark-colored paper and tape them to each window. This can help cut down on the reflection that makes windows look transparent to birds.

- Put together an animal-rescue kit to keep in your family's car in case of emergency. Make sure it includes a towel, a leash, a bottle of water, and a cardboard box or carrier.

- Break the bad habit of referring to animals as "it" instead of "he," "she," or "they" by creating an "it" jar. Find instructions at SharetheWorld.org/ItJar.

- Explain why animals need our voices when they're in danger. If your child knows that someone has hurt an animal, the best thing to do is to report it to you, a teacher, or the police before the person hurts another animal. People who hurt other people often start out by hurting dogs, cats, and other animals.

_____
(Teacher's Name)