

CLASSROOM TIPS FROM THE OT

Here are some fun tips to help integrate Lucy the Lapdog into your classroom:



Make Lucy the Lapdog your class pet! While you may have certain little ones in mind who would most benefit from the sensory input Lucy provides, Lucy can sit on anyone's lap. Check out this list that one Kindergarten teacher created for her inclusion class.

Lucy has motivated ALL children in this teacher's classroom to earn their turn with Lucy! Bonus: Lucy even spends the weekend with those who have worked extra hard. Get creative with your class pet, Lucy the Lapdog!

Teach your students about Lucy the Lapdog and her likes and dislikes by reading her companion book. This creates engaging conversation about how EVERYONE has different sensory preferences and aversions. Start by sharing your "grown-up" sensory needs as well as what some of your sensory based likes and dislikes were when you were a kid.

Reading the story also is a good initial step in telling your students how Lucy should be treated. Some examples of things you could say:

"Lucy likes to be pet nicely, use calm hands."

"Lucy doesn't like her ears tugged or her tail pulled."

"Don't throw Lucy. Lucy needs to sit on your lap because she's a lapdog!"

"Remember Lucy does not like loud noises, please use your inside voice."



Create a resting spot in your classroom for Lucy the Lapdog when it is time for recess or lunch. One teacher even dresses Lucy in seasonal clothing. Let your student earn the privilege of giving Lucy a "treat" before you leave for the day!



In addition to Lucy the Lapdog being a great seated companion, she is also perfect for use with students who have difficulty with transitions. I have found that children love Lucy so much, the anxiety of the transition is replaced with anticipation and excitement of carrying her. Plus, you know your OT will love this opportunity you've just given your students for more heavy work!

We know you teachers are the most creative types, and we would LOVE to know how you are using Lucy the Lapdog in your classroom! Tag Lucy the Lapdog on Facebook or on Instagram [lucy_the_lapdog](#) with your pics and comments!