

Cal and the Rainbow Bridge

National Day Classroom

Cal walked into class one morning and noticed a colorful drawing taped to the chalkboard. It showed a bright rainbow stretching across the sky with animals—dogs, cats, even birds and rabbits—playing happily together.

“What’s that picture for?” Cal whispered to his friend Mia.

Ms. Carter overheard and smiled kindly. “That’s for something special we’ll learn about today. August 28 is *Rainbow Bridge Remembrance Day*. It’s a day when people remember their pets who have passed away.”

Cal tilted his head. “Rainbow Bridge? Like a real bridge in the sky?”

Ms. Carter nodded. “It’s a poem and an idea that helps people when they lose a pet. The story says that when pets pass away, they go to a beautiful meadow across a rainbow bridge. They run and play without pain or sickness, waiting until they can be with their families again someday.”

The classroom grew quiet. Some kids nodded knowingly, and others looked thoughtful.

Cal raised his hand. “I remember when my goldfish, Bubbles, died. I was really sad.”

“Me too,” said Mia softly. “Our dog Daisy passed away last year. I still miss her a lot.”

Ms. Carter’s eyes were gentle. “It’s okay to miss them. Days like today remind us that pets gave us love and happy memories. Thinking of the Rainbow Bridge can bring comfort.”

She handed out papers with rainbow outlines. “Today, you can draw a rainbow and add a picture or name of a pet you’d like to remember. If you don’t have a pet, you can draw any animal you love.”

Cal picked up his crayons and carefully drew a rainbow with a little orange fish swimming at the top. Underneath, he wrote, *Bubbles*.

When everyone finished, the class taped their rainbows together to make one big colorful wall. It looked bright and cheerful, almost like a real rainbow stretching across the classroom.

Ms. Carter stood back and said softly, “See? Our pets may be gone, but their love stays with us—just like a rainbow that comes after rain.”

Cal smiled. He didn’t feel as sad anymore. Instead, he felt proud that Bubbles was part of their classroom rainbow, shining with all the other pets.

✧✧ **Writing Prompt for Students:**

Draw or write about a pet or animal you love. What special memories do you have of them? If you could imagine them on the Rainbow Bridge, what would they be doing?

