

Dr. Rosie and Empathy

Veterinary medicine is, at its core, an empathetic profession. Therefore, empathy-building skills can be authentically taught using the story as a springboard for discussion.

Empathy has TWO core competencies:	
Social Awareness in the classroom is...	Responsible Decision-Making in the classroom is...
Being aware of others	Stop and Think
Understanding that others have feelings	Consider your choices
Knowing that YOUR actions affect others (people and animals)	Think about consequences
Listen to what others have to say	Make your decision

Talk to your students about what social awareness and responsible decision-making looks like not only in *Dr. Rosie Helps the Animals*, but in the classroom, too. How can they show these skills towards their families, classmates, and animals? Be sure to model and point out examples as they occur.

An Educator's Guide to Empathy

(adapted from RedRover Readers)

- Ask the question, take responses, and listen.
- Restate (so everyone can hear) without adding or judging. Do not include your opinion or answer.
 - Listen and take another response
- Remove your instructor hat: seek information, opinions, and reflections based on the book. Acknowledge questions without straying from the listening role. Write them down on the board or throw them back to your class to answer.
- Hear **ALL** responses: most questions are open-ended...and they are designed that way. Allow students to relate them to their own selves. Without judgment upon them, students will feel safe and begin to be more honest and take risks.