Our mission is to Instill Land to Sea Conservation and Compassion for animals in the hearts of the next generation.

-ReelTime Animal Rescue-

**C** onservation-Focused

O pen to All Schools

**N** ature-Bonding

**N** urturing Compassion

**E** ducational Excellence

**C** ommunity-Engaged

T echnology-Driven

#### **BENEFITS TO STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS:**

- SUPPORTS EMOTIONAL AND SOCIAL LEARNING BY PROMOTING EMPATHY AND COMPASSION.
- ENCOURAGES CRITICAL THINKING THROUGH PROBLEM-SOLVING AND DISCUSSION.
- ENHANCES COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND AWARENESS AT A YOUNG AGE, LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP.

**COMPASSION EDUCATION** 

CONNECT &

INSPIRE

GRADES 6-8



#### **OVERVIEW**

This adaptation of the curriculum is tailored for middle school students, integrating more advanced concepts in animal welfare and conservation, along with project-based learning that fosters independence, critical thinking, and active citizenship.



### **CURRICULUM GOALS**



- Deepen understanding of ecological systems and the role of animals within these systems.
- Enhance critical analysis skills through evaluation of conservation challenges and solutions.
- Foster leadership and initiative by engaging students in designing and implementing community projects.





## **DURATION & FLEXIBILITY**



- The curriculum is planned for 1 to 3 days, adjustable according to classroom needs and can be extended for in-depth projects or integrated into a broader unit.
- Adaptable teaching content that can be tailored to complement existing community engagement initiatives or middle school projects.



## **DISCOVERY**



- In-depth exploration of ecosystems, emphasizing biodiversity and the symbiotic relationships among organisms,
- Examination of case studies that highlight effective conservation practices, concentrating on the contributions of animals within diverse ecosystems.
- Students participate in role-play exercises to understand various viewpoints in conservation (such as those of conservationists, local residents, and government representatives).
- Activities where students evaluate the success of various conservation approaches.

## **PREPARATION**

- Day 1: Educator selects a Presenter from ReelTime Animal Rescue's website; Book Date & Time.
- Preparation for the livestream:
   Students prepare by researching the rescue or sanctuary to be featured, formulating advanced questions based on their research.
- Submit questions to the Presenter before live session.

## (30-40 minutes)



 Day 2: Presenter is livestreamed via Google Meet in the classroom on selected date.

- Presenter answers previously submitted questions.
- Encourage community involvement

## **INSPIRE**



- Day 3: Post-livestream analysis:
   Community Leadership in Action
- Students use digital tools to design a community awareness campaign, focusing on persuasive communication and multimedia integration.
- Project management skills, guiding students through the planning and execution phases of their campaigns.



# GUIDE FOR TEACHERS: COMPASSION EDUCATION: CONNECT & INSPIRE

Introduction: This adaptation for middle school not only aims to educate but also to inspire and equip students with the confidence to take meaningful action in their communities. The curriculum encourages students to become leaders in conservation, fostering a generation of informed and proactive citizens.

#### **COMPASSION EDUCATION: CONNECT & INSPIRE**

#### 1. Welcome and Overview:

- An introduction to the "Compassion Education: CONNECT & Inspire" program.
- Overview of the curriculum's objectives, with a focus on developing a deeper understanding of ecological principles, conservation issues, and ethical considerations.

#### 2. Curriculum Structure and Timing:

- Breakdown of the curriculum over 1 to 3 days.
- Suggestions for integrating the curriculum within the standard school schedule.

#### **Day 1: Global Biodiversity and Conservation Challenges**

- Pre-Livestream Research: Instructions for students to research the featured organization and prepare insightful questions.
- Student questions submitted to selected Presenter the day before the livestream.



#### Day 2: Live Connection with ReelTime Animal Rescue's Presenter

- Objective: Students engage directly with experts to gain insights into real-world conservation efforts and ethical considerations in animal welfare.
- Activities:
  - Materials Needed: Technical setup requirements for hosting the livestream.
  - Livestream Preparation: Set classroom rules for the live session.
  - Viewing and Interaction Guide: Facilitating student questions/answers and engagement during the livestream.
  - Post-Livestream Reflection: Students apply their learning by designing and implementing a community engagement project that promotes conservation awareness.

#### **Day 3: Conservation Awareness Campaign**

- Objective: Use creative projects to reinforce learning and encourage advocacy for animal welfare. Integrating hands-on activities after a livestream session can significantly enhance their learning experience and make a tangible impact on animal welfare.
- Activities:
  - Campaign Creation: Students apply what they've learned by creating and presenting a conservation awareness campaign.
  - o Campaign Design Workshop: Students create effective advocacy materials using both digital and traditional media.
  - Conduct a Fundraiser: Students can organize a fundraiser for the organization they just engaged with via livestream, or select a local animal shelter/sanctuary in their community.
  - Project Planning Workshop: Plan a conservation project, including goal setting and medium selection (e.g., digital campaigns, community workshops).
  - Presentation Skills Clinic: Instructions on teaching effective communication techniques for public speaking and digital presentations.



- Background Information on Animal Welfare:
  - In-depth discussions on various topics, such as wildlife trafficking, habitat loss, and ethical treatment of animals, including recent research and ongoing debates in the field.
  - Information about different conservation strategies and their effectiveness, as well as ethical considerations in wildlife conservation.

#### **DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT**

- Create and record a Public Service Announcement:
  - Utilizing free online programs to create and record a Public Service Announcement. Digital tools to integrate technology into learning, allowing students to create digital projects or presentations that can be shared beyond the classroom.
  - o These tools also aim to enhance engagement and provide students with modern skills in digital communication.

#### **Teacher Feedback:**

 Feedback on ReelTime Animal Rescue's Compassion Education CONNECT & Inspire curriculum and its implementation.

