

Compassion Education: **CONNECT** & **INSPIRE**

Presented by ReelTime Animal Rescue



Transforming K-12 Classrooms with Compassion and Leadership

FLORIDA STEM & SEL BENCHMARK ALIGNMENT

This document outlines how ReelTime Animal Rescue's Compassion Education: **CONNECT** & **Inspire** program aligns with the STEM & SEL benchmarks set forth by the Florida Department of Education. The program is designed to meet key educational standards through real-time content fostering critical thinking and empathy along with real-world social-emotional skills.

STEM Benchmarks Alignment

GRADES: K–2 (Standards: SC.K.L.14.3, SC.1.L.17.1, SC.2.L.17.1)

Benchmark: Understand basic needs of animals and their habitats. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students watch live animals in real-time as they eat, sleep, recover, and interact with their environments.
- Teachers guide students in identifying how animals rely on food, water, shelter, and care from humans.
- Students build models of animal environments using rescue scenarios to represent cause and effect.

GRADES: 3–5 (Standards: SC.3.L.17.2, SC.4.L.17.4, SC.5.L.15.1)

Benchmark: Explore food chains, conservation, and environmental interdependence. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Learners observe ecosystem relationships, identifying producers, consumers, and decomposers using sanctuary animals.
- Students explore real-world examples of endangered species and discuss human roles in habitat loss and protection.
- They model food webs based on livestream footage and complete cause-and-effect analysis through group discussion or presentations.

GRADES: 6–8 (Standards: SC.7.L.17.3, SC.8.L.18.4)

Benchmark: Analyze population dynamics, symbiosis, and human impact. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students investigate how animal sanctuaries support population recovery and biodiversity by evaluating livestream data and rescue narratives.
- They identify examples of mutualism, commensalism, and competition in real-time animal behavior.
- Compassion Education promotes ethical inquiry, encouraging students to explore the implications of environmental disruption.

GRADES: 9–12 (Standards: SC.912.L.17.4, SC.912.L.17.20, SC.912.N.1.6)

Benchmark: Evaluate sustainability, scientific investigation, and environmental stewardship. Compassion Education Alignment:

- High school students use data, livestreams, and real-world sanctuary reports to research biodiversity challenges and develop action plans.
- They conduct interdisciplinary investigations, integrating media, biology, ethics, and advocacy.
- Students create persuasive presentations and design campaigns to protect threatened species, fulfilling civic and scientific roles in problem-solving.

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GRADES: K-2

- Self-Awareness: Students articulate feelings in response to animal stories and begin recognizing empathy.
- Social Awareness: Through group discussions, learners explore how helping others, including animals, is a form of kindness and responsibility.

GRADES: 3-5

- Responsible Decision-Making: Students reflect on their role in nature and learn about ethical choices like reducing plastic waste or helping animals.
- Relationship Skills: Compassion-based group projects encourage listening, respect, and teamwork.

GRADES: 6-8

- Self-Management: Students process emotional responses to intense content and use reflective writing and discussions to explore solutions.
- Social Awareness: Learners build global empathy by viewing animal rescues from around the world and understanding different cultural approaches to care.

GRADES: 9-12

- Civic Leadership: Teens lead advocacy projects that integrate science, compassion, and media.
- Ethical Reasoning: High school students participate in debates and campaign design centered on real-world dilemmas, from captive wildlife to rewilding.