

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

Presented by ReelTime Animal Rescue



Transforming K-12 Classrooms with Compassion and Leadership

HAWAII 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 Hawaii 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: K-LS1-1, K-ESS3-1, K-2-ETS1-1)

Benchmark: Understand basic needs of organisms and the relationship between humans and the environment. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students observe animals in sanctuaries and identify how they meet their basic needs through food, shelter, and care.
- Livestreams from oceans, forests, and farms reinforce Hawaii's place-based understanding of living systems.
- Learners connect human actions (litter, deforestation, kindness) to animal outcomes, fostering early responsibility.

GRADES: 3–5 (Standards: 3-LS4-3, 4-ESS3-1, 5-PS3-1, 5-LS2-1)

Benchmark: Model energy flow in ecosystems and explore cause-effect relationships in environmental changes. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students watch live animal interactions to build food chains and identify predator-prey relationships.
- They explore how sanctuaries mimic natural ecosystems and offer safety from environmental degradation.
- Using cause-effect reasoning, students analyze how pollution, invasive species, or climate change affect native animal populations.

GRADES: 6–8 (Standards: MS-LS2-4, MS-ESS3-3, MS-LS4-5)

Benchmark: Analyze biodiversity loss, resource limitations, and ethical design solutions. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Learners study real-time examples of population changes and species rescue in Hawaii and globally.
- Compassion Education encourages students to design solutions for animal conservation that align with cultural respect and environmental stewardship.
- Discussions connect Western science and Indigenous knowledge, reflecting Hawaii's emphasis on inclusive science practice.

GRADES: 9–12 (Standards: HS-LS2-7, HS-ESS3-4, HS-ETS1-3)

Benchmark: Propose sustainable solutions, model human-environment relationships, and evaluate environmental policies. Compassion Education Alignment:

- High school students use livestream footage, case studies, and global partnerships to research endangered species, climate impact, and sustainable farming.
- They engage in project-based learning to develop advocacy campaigns that reflect Hawaiian values of mālama āina (caring for the land).
- Activities integrate science, policy, media, and ethics, preparing students for college, careers, and civic responsibility.

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GRADES: K-2

- Belonging & Self-Awareness: Students reflect on their emotional response to rescued animals and begin to understand their role as caretakers of nature.
- Social Awareness: Children engage in guided storytelling to understand empathy, responsibility, and care.

GRADES: 3-5

- Collaboration & Responsibility: Students work in groups to design posters, kindness campaigns, or class videos advocating for animals.
- Cultural Understanding: Learners explore connections between native species, ecosystems, and traditional knowledge.

GRADES: 6-8

- Resilience & Global Perspective: Students reflect on how different communities support animals in crisis, drawing parallels with Hawaiian values.
- Decision-Making: Through observation and dialogue, learners evaluate the ethics behind animal care, marine life rescue, and environmental choices.

GRADES: 9-12

- Civic Engagement & Ethical Leadership: Teens create solutions-oriented advocacy tied to local and global environmental issues.
- Interconnectedness: Compassion Education reinforces the HÅ value of understanding how individuals and ecosystems are deeply linked.