

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

Presented by ReelTime Animal Rescue



Transforming K-12 Classrooms with Compassion and Leadership

INDIANA 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 Indiana 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.LS.1, K.ESS.3, 1.LS.3, 2.LS.1)

Benchmark: Observe and describe living organisms and how they meet basic needs. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students observe sanctuary animals and identify key survival needs: food, water, shelter, and safety.
- Class activities include drawing habitats, storytelling about animal journeys, and reflecting on human roles in animal care.
- Teachers introduce cause-and-effect relationships and simple environmental responsibility.

GRADES: 3–5 (Standards: 3.LS.3, 4.ESS.4, 5.LS.2)

Benchmark: Model ecosystem interactions, adaptations, and environmental impacts. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students use livestream footage to track animal behavior and explore energy flow, adaptation, and ecosystem dynamics.
- Learners develop environmental awareness by evaluating how pollution or deforestation affects animals.
- Projects include creating posters, dioramas, or short videos that teach conservation and kindness.

GRADES: 6–8 (Standards: 6-8.LS.5, 7.ESS.3, 8.ETS.1)

Benchmark: Analyze population changes, sustainability, and design-based solutions. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students investigate rescue data to assess ecosystem balance and human influence.
- They propose innovative solutions to environmental challenges (e.g., wildlife crossings, pollution reduction campaigns).
- Classroom activities align with STEM problem-solving models and interdisciplinary thinking.

GRADES: 9–12 (Standards: ENV-1.4, BIO-4.4, IAP-6.1)

Benchmark: Examine human impact on ecosystems and advocate for ethical, sustainable solutions. Compassion Education Alignment:

- High school students use global rescue case studies to explore climate effects, species recovery, and environmental justice.
- Students participate in multimedia advocacy, developing campaigns that combine empathy, science, and civic action.
- This mirrors Indiana's focus on college and career readiness and ethical STEM application.

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GRADES: K-2

- Self-Awareness: Children describe how animal rescue stories make them feel and why those feelings matter.
- Social Awareness: Discussions and read-alouds teach listening, compassion, and inclusion.

GRADES: 3-5

- Responsible Decision-Making: Students reflect on how they can protect animals, make eco-friendly choices, and care for pets.
- Collaboration: Teamwork projects (videos, kindness campaigns) reinforce positive communication and peer respect.

GRADES: 6-8

- Ethical Leadership: Students analyze dilemmas around animal welfare and articulate opinions backed by evidence and empathy.
- Global Awareness: Footage from around the world increases understanding of diverse cultures and shared environmental concerns.

GRADES: 9-12

- Civic Engagement: Teens lead school-wide campaigns or community presentations on animal welfare or sustainability.
- Empowered Advocacy: SEL is deepened through real-world ethical analysis and solutions-based project planning.