

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

Presented by ReelTime Animal Rescue



## Transforming K-12 Classrooms with Compassion and Leadership

### KENTUCKY 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 Kentucky 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, 2-LS4-1)

Benchmark: Identify what living things need and how humans affect the environment. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students observe rescued animals and their care routines via livestreams.
- Activities include modeling basic animal habitats, sorting needs vs. wants, and journaling about care.
- Compassion-based discussions encourage connection and early scientific awareness.

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

Benchmark: Explore interdependence within ecosystems and evaluate human environmental impact. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students study energy flow in ecosystems using sanctuary footage and guided observation.
- Learners identify how rescue centers act as conservation support systems.
- Projects include conservation posters, digital advocacy, and wildlife protection proposals.

##### GRADES: 6–8 (Standards: MS-LS2-4, MS-ESS3-3, MS-ETS1-1)

Benchmark: Examine cause-effect of ecosystem disruption and design ethical interventions. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students analyze real-world examples of species decline and habitat degradation.
- They collaborate on design solutions—like wildlife crossings or pet education campaigns, that combine ethics and engineering.
- Projects align with Kentucky's emphasis on phenomena-driven learning and practical application.

##### GRADES: 9–12 (Standards: HS-LS2-7, HS-ESS3-4, HS-ETS1-2)

Benchmark: Evaluate sustainability issues and develop evidence-based conservation solutions. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students use rescue footage and partner case studies to model systems change.
- Research assignments explore wildlife protection policies, ecosystem rehabilitation, and career paths in conservation.
- Advocacy presentations and campaigns meet Kentucky's college, career, and civic readiness goals.

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#### GRADES: K-2

- Self-Awareness: Students identify and express feelings related to animal rescue and care.
- Social Awareness: Lessons highlight empathy, kindness, and inclusion.

#### GRADES: 3-5

- Responsible Decision-Making: Children evaluate how their daily actions affect animals and the environment.
- Relationship Skills: Team activities encourage respect, collaboration, and compassionate communication.

#### GRADES: 6-8

- Ethical Reflection: Students analyze dilemmas around wildlife, rescue ethics, and human behavior.
- Empathy in Action: Learners connect personal values to real-world compassion efforts globally.

#### GRADES: 9-12

- Civic Engagement & Leadership: High schoolers advocate for meaningful change through media, policy, and service.
- Global Responsibility: SEL deepens through problem-solving in diverse social, environmental, and cultural contexts.