

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

Presented by ReelTime Animal Rescue



Transforming K-12 Classrooms with Compassion and Leadership

LOUISIANA 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 Louisiana 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: LSSS-K-LS1-1, LSSS-K-ESS3-1, LSSS-2-LS4-1)

Benchmark: Observe the needs of living organisms and explore how humans interact with the environment. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students watch rescued animals and identify key survival needs like food, water, shelter, and care.
- Teachers facilitate modeling of natural habitats and talk about how people help or harm animals and ecosystems.
- Children begin to connect scientific observation with empathy and responsibility.

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

Benchmark: Evaluate the impact of human activity and model relationships within ecosystems. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students analyze rescue centers as part of ecosystem support structures and human intervention in conservation.
- Learners engage in modeling food webs, ecosystem storytelling, and designing simple conservation solutions.
- Emphasis is placed on real-time science observation through live cameras and project-based learning.

GRADES: 6–8 (Standards: LSSS-MS-LS2-4, LSSS-MS-ESS3-3, LSSS-MS-ETS1-2)

Benchmark: Examine ecosystem dynamics and design ethical solutions to real-world environmental problems. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students review animal rescue data and explore the causes and effects of biodiversity loss.
- Engineering and advocacy projects challenge students to create real-world solutions (e.g., education programs, clean-up initiatives).
- Discussions reinforce the value of compassionate choices in environmental science.

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

Benchmark: Develop science-based arguments and design sustainable, ethical interventions. Compassion Education Alignment:

- High school students lead multimedia campaigns, presentations, or case-study analysis on rescue efforts, wildlife protection, and environmental ethics.
- Students synthesize data, apply STEM design principles, and communicate findings aligned with college, career, and civic readiness.
- Compassion Education offers cross-curricular integration, bringing together science, ethics, and communication.

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GRADES: K-2

- Self-Awareness & Kindness: Students identify how they feel when watching animals in need and describe why those emotions matter.
- Social Awareness: Simple service projects (e.g., "Kindness to Animals" week) build empathy and classroom unity.

GRADES: 3-5

- Responsible Decision-Making: Students evaluate ethical decisions related to animals, pollution, and conservation.
- Relationship Skills: Group projects promote listening, sharing, and collaboration.

GRADES: 6-8

- Ethical Thinking & Cultural Awareness: Learners explore animal rescues from diverse regions and analyze issues of equity and justice.
- Leadership Development: Students take initiative through creative campaigns and teamwork.

GRADES: 9-12

- Empowered Advocacy: High schoolers use SEL competencies in persuasive writing, public speaking, and collaborative activism.
- Civic Engagement: Students explore the intersection of science, empathy, and public policy.