

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

Presented by ReelTime Animal Rescue



## Transforming K-12 Classrooms with Compassion and Leadership

### MICHIGAN 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 Michigan 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: Understand what living organisms need and how humans affect the environment. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students observe animal needs and behaviors through sanctuary livestreams.
- Activities connect early science exploration with empathy and responsible action.
- Discussions about kindness and stewardship promote environmental ethics.

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

Benchmark: Investigate ecosystems and analyze the effects of human actions. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students study rescue environments to explore food chains, habitats, and conservation.
- Projects challenge students to model interdependence and propose simple solutions to real-world issues.
- Teachers use storytelling and case studies to reinforce cause and effect in scientific systems.

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

Benchmark: Analyze environmental impact and create engineering solutions. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students examine data from global rescue centers to study population changes and ecological disruptions.
- Compassion Education supports Michigan's interdisciplinary focus by connecting science, ethics, and technology.
- Activities include media campaigns, conservation engineering, and data presentations.

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

Benchmark: Evaluate sustainability strategies and design science-based solutions. Compassion Education Alignment:

- High school students research and debate real issues like habitat loss, species recovery, and conservation policy.
- Students apply ethical reasoning in science and engineering design challenges.
- Compassion Education supports college, career, and civic readiness through authentic inquiry and advocacy.

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#### GRADES: K-2

- Self-Awareness: Students talk about how they feel when they see animals being helped.
- Relationship Skills: Young learners practice sharing ideas and working together on compassion-themed activities.

#### GRADES: 3-5

- Social Awareness: Students learn to care for others and reflect on ethical decisions.
- Responsible Decision-Making: Classrooms explore how to protect animals, people, and the planet.

#### GRADES: 6-8

- Empathy & Critical Thinking: Students analyze animal rescue scenarios to deepen ethical awareness.
- Community Building: Learners design projects that support both local and global good.

#### GRADES: 9-12

- Civic Leadership: High schoolers take action on environmental justice, animal welfare, and conservation efforts.
- SEL in Action: Students use storytelling, media creation, and debate to lead compassionate change.