

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

Presented by ReelTime Animal Rescue



Transforming K-12 Classrooms with Compassion and Leadership

MISSOURI 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 Missouri 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.A, 1.ESS3.A, 2.LS4.D)

Benchmark: Recognize what animals need to survive and understand the connection between living things and their environments. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students watch real animals receive care, connecting emotional awareness with life science.
- Livestreamed sanctuary content allows direct observation of shelter, food, water, and human aid.
- Class discussions and creative projects integrate empathy with basic biological understanding.

GRADES: 3–5 (Standards: 3.LS4.C, 4.ESS3.A, 5.LS2.A)

Benchmark: Analyze how human activity affects ecosystems and how organisms interact in food chains and webs. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students explore animal sanctuaries and rescue missions as living ecosystems.
- Assignments like ecosystem diagrams, ethical debates, and conservation pledges connect science and personal responsibility.
- Compassion Education helps students propose solutions to local and global environmental challenges.

GRADES: 6–8 (Standards: MS.LS2.C, MS.ESS3.C, MS.ETS1.B)

Benchmark: Evaluate sustainability and design solutions to environmental problems. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Middle schoolers research habitat degradation, endangered species, and climate impacts via livestreamed case studies.
- Students practice engineering thinking by proposing interventions for sanctuary or environmental challenges.
- Compassion Education integrates interdisciplinary skills — from data analysis to persuasive writing.

GRADES: 9–12 (Standards: HS.LS2.C, HS.ESS3.C, HS.ETS1.B)

Benchmark: Apply scientific and engineering principles to investigate, model, and solve environmental issues. Compassion Education Alignment:

- High school students explore real-world issues like factory farming, urban wildlife displacement, or ecosystem collapse.
- Students lead inquiry-based research using sanctuary data and livestream experiences.
- Compassion-driven advocacy projects align with NGSS performance expectations and support civic readiness.

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GRADES: K-2

- Self-Awareness: Students express feelings through storytelling and art about animals.
- Social Awareness: Children develop caring classroom communities through animal-themed empathy lessons.

GRADES: 3-5

- Responsible Decision-Making: Students debate and reflect on real sanctuary scenarios to understand consequences and ethical thinking.
- Relationship Skills: Peer collaboration on compassion projects builds trust and cooperation.

GRADES: 6-8

- Perspective-Taking: Learners study global animal issues, practicing both emotional and scientific empathy.
- Emotion Regulation: Students reflect on their responses and consider compassion in conflict resolution.

GRADES: 9-12

- Civic Identity: Teens lead peer discussions and campaigns with a focus on ethics, justice, and conservation.
- SEL in Practice: Students apply emotional intelligence to public speaking, leadership, and advocacy.