

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

Presented by ReelTime Animal Rescue



## Transforming K-12 Classrooms with Compassion and Leadership

### NEBRASKA 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 Nebraska 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: SC.K.7.2.A, SC.1.9.2.B, SC.2.9.3.B)

Benchmark: Explore how organisms meet their needs and how humans interact with their environments. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Young students observe animals receiving food, care, and shelter via livestreams.
- Teachers guide discussions about what it means to care for living things.
- Compassion Education ties core science skills to empathy and responsibility.

##### GRADES: 3–5 (Standards: SC.3.9.3.A, SC.4.9.4.B, SC.5.7.2.B)

Benchmark: Understand ecosystems, human impacts, and transfer of energy. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students track how animal rescues are linked to environmental conditions and food webs.
- Class projects focus on designing solutions or advocating for animal/environmental protection.
- Scientific reasoning is supported by storytelling, visuals, and ethical thinking.

##### GRADES: 6–8 (Standards: MS-LS2-3.NE, MS-ESS3-3.NE, MS-ETS1-2.NE)

Benchmark: Develop and use models to describe the cycling of matter and propose sustainable solutions. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Middle school students use sanctuary content to model real ecosystems and identify threats to sustainability.
- Lessons include ethical analysis of human activity and research into alternative solutions.
- Interdisciplinary learning connects compassion to civic engagement and scientific literacy.

##### GRADES: 9–12 (Standards: HS-LS2-6.NE, HS-ESS3-4.NE, HS-ETS1-3.NE)

Benchmark: Create solutions to environmental problems using engineering and data. Compassion Education Alignment:

- High school students apply scientific reasoning to solve animal-related environmental issues.
- Campaigns, digital storytelling, and presentations support science communication skills.
- Students explore complex ethical questions while developing real-world, future-ready solutions.

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#### GRADES: K-2

- Self-Awareness: Young learners identify their emotions while learning about animal care.
- Social Awareness: Empathy grows through sanctuary stories and peer reflections.

#### GRADES: 3-5

- Ethical Decision-Making: Students consider different outcomes and choose kindness in scenarios.
- Collaboration: Peer-led projects help children practice respectful dialogue and inclusion.

#### GRADES: 6-8

- Emotional Regulation: Students learn how compassion and advocacy are connected to values and action.
- Perspective-Taking: Learners engage with global rescue stories and reflect on their own impact.

#### GRADES: 9-12

- SEL Leadership: Teens engage in public speaking, digital advocacy, and ethics-based inquiry.
- Civic Identity: Students apply SEL to science, community outreach, and environmental justice.