

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

Presented by ReelTime Animal Rescue



Transforming K-12 Classrooms with Compassion and Leadership

NEW JERSEY 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 New Jersey 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: Describe what animals need to survive and the role of humans in their ecosystems. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students witness animal care live, linking real needs to science standards.
- Teachers guide discussions about responsibility, compassion, and ecosystems.
- Curiosity is supported by emotionally engaging and relevant examples.

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

Benchmark: Understand interactions among organisms and environmental responsibility. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students analyze food webs, community impact, and biodiversity using sanctuary examples.
- Projects include models of ecosystems, conservation advocacy, and solution proposals.
- The program supports critical thinking and real-world science relevance.

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

Benchmark: Propose and evaluate solutions to environmental issues. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Learners explore climate impact, pollution, and sustainability through real rescue footage.
- Students work in teams to develop ethical solutions based on sanctuary scenarios.
- Activities blend scientific reasoning, empathy, and civic awareness.

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

Benchmark: Analyze and solve complex global environmental issues. Compassion Education Alignment:

- High school students lead community action, environmental research, and persuasive campaigns.
- Lessons bridge scientific thinking and social action with emotional depth.
- Students prepare for higher education and leadership in sustainability.

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GRADES: K-2

- Emotional Literacy: Students name and express emotions inspired by animal stories.
- Kindness in Action: Activities reinforce care for living beings and self-regulation.

GRADES: 3-5

- Team Collaboration: Group learning builds inclusive behavior and ethical thinking.
- Decision-Making: Students practice choosing actions based on kindness and logic.

GRADES: 6-8

- Civic Identity: Students reflect on their role in creating a better world.
- Resilience: Learners explore difficult rescue journeys and relate to perseverance.

GRADES: 9-12

- Purpose & Advocacy: Teens lead with compassion, using data and storytelling.
- Social Justice Skills: Students apply emotional intelligence to conservation and equity.