

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

Presented by ReelTime Animal Rescue



Transforming K-12 Classrooms with Compassion and Leadership

NEW YORK 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 York 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 animals need to live and how humans affect the environment. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Children explore animal needs by watching real-time sanctuary care.
- Teachers facilitate dialogue around how kindness and ecosystems are connected.
- Students engage in observation, creative storytelling, and environmental responsibility.

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

Benchmark: Analyze how organisms interact and how humans impact ecosystems. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Learners use livestreams to identify food webs, predator-prey relationships, and community roles.
- Projects may include habitat restoration planning, ethical dilemmas, and solution design.
- Science becomes personal through emotional connection and real-world relevance.

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

Benchmark: Examine ecosystem stability and develop responses to human impacts. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students study climate effects, pollution, and conservation through global sanctuary examples.
- Emotional storytelling enriches inquiry, analysis, and collaboration.
- Students present findings in persuasive, media-integrated formats.

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

Benchmark: Apply science and engineering practices to real-world problems. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Teens explore ethical implications of human behavior on animals and the planet.
- Learners lead community outreach, sustainability projects, and media campaigns.
- The program supports career readiness, advocacy, and STEM literacy.

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GRADES: K-2

- Self-Expression: Students share their feelings after viewing rescue stories.
- Empathy: Activities prompt learners to care for others, animals, and themselves.

GRADES: 3-5

- Social Awareness: Children analyze cause and effect through kindness and conflict.
- Ethical Thinking: Rescue stories help students explore fairness and compassion.

GRADES: 6-8

- Voice & Identity: Students discuss what matters to them and how to help others.
- Emotional Agility: Programs foster resilience through understanding struggle and healing.

GRADES: 9-12

- Civic Agency: Teens become leaders in kindness, justice, and environmental advocacy.
- Moral Reasoning: Lessons reinforce empathy-based decision-making and leadership.