Compassion Education: *CONNECT & INSPIRE*

Presented by ReelTime Animal Rescue

Transforming K-12 Classrooms with Compassion and Leadership

OKLAHOMA 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 Oklahoma 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, 1.LS1.1, 2.LS4.1)

Benchmark: Recognize animal needs and observe patterns in nature. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students watch live animal rescues and caretaking, gaining awareness of what all living things need to survive.
- Teachers guide observations and help students make simple connections to habitats and kindness.
- Journal drawing, group reflection, and empathy-based lessons enrich the experience.

GRADES: 3–5 (Standards: 3.LS4.3, 4.LS1.1, 5.LS2.1)

Benchmark: Investigate biodiversity, adaptation, and food webs. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Learners explore sanctuary ecosystems and observe animals adjusting to new environments.
- Students map food chains and discuss the impact of humans on animal well-being.
- Lessons blend science inquiry with ethics, encouraging thoughtful reflection and writing.

GRADES: 6–8 (Standards: MS.LS2.1, MS.ESS3.3, MS.ETS1.1)

Benchmark: Evaluate interactions within ecosystems and propose environmental solutions. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students use real-world case studies to examine habitat restoration and animal rehabilitation.
- Projects include proposing solutions to pollution, overpopulation, or climate impacts.
- The program enhances cross-disciplinary thinking and systems awareness.

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

Benchmark: Apply systems thinking to environmental problems and develop innovative responses. Compassion Education Alignment:

- High school students explore the intersection of science, ethics, and global citizenship.
- Students research humane technologies, conservation practices, and sustainability campaigns.
- Lessons promote scientific communication and compassionate leadership.

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GRADES: K–2

- Emotion Recognition: Students explore feelings of safety, fear, and kindness through animal stories.

- Connection to Others: SEL supports empathy-building and kind action in the classroom.

GRADES: 3–5

- Responsibility: Students reflect on how people can help animals and the Earth.

- Moral Reasoning: Discussions encourage fairness, care, and respect.

GRADES: 6–8

- Voice & Identity: Learners consider their role in making the world better for all species.

- Perspective-Taking: Students evaluate situations with compassion and scientific inquiry.

GRADES: 9–12

- Advocacy & Leadership: Teens create projects and campaigns with measurable impact.

- Emotional Intelligence: SEL builds civic-minded, empathetic, and confident leaders.

ReelTime Animal Rescue