

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

Presented by ReelTime Animal Rescue



## Transforming K-12 Classrooms with Compassion and Leadership

### VERMONT 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 Vermont 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: Use observations to describe patterns in nature and animal needs. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Livestreams showcase animals being rescued and cared for in sanctuary environments.
- Students document patterns of behavior and survival needs.
- Activities reinforce classification, prediction, and environmental responsibility.

##### GRADES: 3-5 (Standards: 3-LS4-3, 4-LS1-1, 5-PS3-1, 5-LS2-1)

Benchmark: Model energy flow in ecosystems and adaptation in changing environments. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Real-time animal stories introduce students to food webs, ecosystems, and symbiosis.
- Students analyze environmental pressures and human impacts.
- Projects include data collection, persuasive writing, and conservation planning.

##### GRADES: 6-8 (Standards: MS-LS2-1, MS-ESS3-3, MS-ETS1-1)

Benchmark: Evaluate the role of human activity on natural systems and propose solutions. Compassion Education Alignment:

- Students explore ecosystem dynamics through live footage and case studies.
- Engineering challenges encourage design of sustainable, compassionate solutions.
- Learners research global problems and develop ethical frameworks for decision-making.

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

Benchmark: Apply scientific reasoning to environmental, biological, and technological challenges. Compassion Education Alignment:

- High school students lead research into environmental sustainability and animal advocacy.
- Students use data to evaluate rescue operations and global conservation models.
- Capstone projects promote systems thinking, communication, and career exploration.

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#### GRADES: K-2

- Empathy Building: Young learners connect with rescued animals and reflect on care needs.
- Kindness in Action: Students practice gentle language, sharing, and emotional labeling.

#### GRADES: 3-5

- Social Responsibility: Discussions highlight fairness, protection, and community.
- Collaboration: Peer interaction and group work reflect SEL values.

#### GRADES: 6-8

- Self-Awareness & Identity: Learners reflect on purpose and ethical beliefs.
- Ethical Thinking: Rescue scenarios support debate, advocacy, and solution design.

#### GRADES: 9-12

- Leadership & Civic Engagement: Teens design initiatives to improve conditions for animals and communities.
- Global Perspective: SEL develops emotional intelligence in a real-world context.