



K-2 HUMANE EDUCATION



SPCA Cincinnati

HEART

Program

In Partnership with
Pet Partners



Helping
Educate w/
Animal
Rescues &
Therapy



SPCA Cincinnati Sharonville

11900 Conrey Rd.
Cincinnati, OH 45249
513.541.6100

SPCA Cincinnati Simmonds Farm

7737 State Route 128
Clevs, OH 45002
513.541.6100



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The Importance of Animal Welfare Education

Can you imagine a world without animals? Companion animals share our lives and our homes, and our daily lives are filled with animals in one way or another—whether we're engaging with the neighborhood dog, spotting a hawk in the wild, learning about penguins at the zoo, or working on the farm. Our affinity for animals is undeniable. Without them, we'd lose a lot of essential human experiences.

Raising awareness about animal welfare is an important component of social change, and at SPCA Cincinnati, we believe animal welfare education is a vital component to helping individuals develop and nurture respect, kindness, empathy, and positive attitudes towards both animals *and* people.

Why Humane Education?

We believe that teaching animal welfare education creates a sense of compassion, justice, and a respect for the value of all living things.

We believe that humane education helps to lesson instances of animal suffering and gives animals the best chance at a happy, healthy life. Even more, it teaches people how to accept and fulfill their responsibilities to not only companion animals, but all forms of life.

Teach Them When They're Young

Children have a natural fondness for animals, and we believe that harnessing such natural empathy and love for animals from a young age is a brilliant way to improve not only

animal welfare, but overall emotional health in children. Studies suggest that educational lessons with animal-related content are more likely to capture a student's attention than other types of programs.

Dogs, cats, and other companion animals are a major part of kids' everyday lives. Most children have at least one animal in their homes or regularly visit homes that do. And, when children learn about animal care in a safe and responsible way, they are more likely to enjoy healthy, loving relationships with animals throughout their lives.

Responsible pet care also aids in the development of a child's healthy self-esteem and maturity. Teaching children routine pet care and encouraging gentle play, bonding, and pet responsibility teaches children compassion, and caring for a pet instills respect for life and an awareness of the needs of others. Such life lessons provide children an understanding of how their behavior can affect others. In turn, ethically aware children and young adults are then empowered to take action as they mature to ensure a sustainable, compassionate, and just world for future generations.

Learning about empathy, relationships, and nature are just some of the benefits children receive by caring for animals. When we create a better generation of people, we will create better lives for humans and animals alike now and in the future.

Animal welfare education promotes attitudes and values that seek to benefit the lives of animals through human interaction. It's the building block of a humane and ethically responsible society.

At SPCA Cincinnati, we believe that every animal deserves an advocate when they're at their most vulnerable, and that animal care and education is a key component to helping enrich the lives of animals everywhere.



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OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES Grades K-2

Students will be able to develop and retain reading skills as they learn about the following:

- the importance of respect and kindness toward all living things
- similarities between people and animals
- identify differences between pet animals and wild animals
- identify pet care needs and what pets need from their human companions
- animals have feeling, and that expressing and understanding feelings is important for pets
- identify what types of shelters animals need, define what an animal shelter is, what they do, and why they are needed

OHIO READING STANDARDS for Informational Text

The following standards offer a focus for instruction each year and help ensure that students gain adequate exposure to a range of texts and tasks. The requirement that students read increasingly complex texts through the grades implies rigor. Students advancing through the grades should meet each year's grade-specific standards and retain or further develop skills and understandings mastered in preceding grades.

KINDERGARTNERS: RL.K.1 With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.

GRADE 1 STUDENTS: RL.1.1 Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.

GRADE 2 STUDENTS: RL.2.1 Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.

OHIO WRITING STANDARDS Text Type and Purposes

The following standards offer a focus for instruction each year to help ensure that students gain adequate mastery of a range of skills and applications. Each year in their writing, students should demonstrate increasing sophistication in all aspects of language use, from vocabulary and syntax to the development and organization of ideas, and they should address increasingly demanding content and sources. Students advancing through the grades should meet each year's grade-specific standards and retain or further develop skills and understandings mastered in preceding grades. Both the standards themselves and the collection of annotated student writing samples in Appendix C reflect the expected growth in student writing ability.

KINDERGARTNERS: W.K.2 Use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to compose informative/explanatory texts that name what is being written about and supply some information about the topic.

GRADE 1 STUDENTS: W.1.2 Write informative/explanatory texts that name a topic, supply some facts about the topic, and provide some sense of closure.

GRADE 2 STUDENTS: W.2.2 Write informative/explanatory texts that introduce a topic, use facts and definitions to develop points, and provide a concluding statement or section.

OHIO SPEAKING AND LISTENING STANDARDS

The following standards for K–12 offer a focus for instruction each year to help ensure that students gain adequate mastery of a range of skills and applications. Students advancing through the grades should meet each year's grade-specific standards and retain or further develop skills and understandings mastered in preceding grades.

KINDERGARTNERS: SL.K.2 Confirm understanding of a text read aloud or information presented in various media and other formats (e.g., orally) by asking and answering questions about key details and requesting clarification if something is not understood.

GRADE 1 STUDENTS: SL.1.2 Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud or information presented in various media and other formats (e.g., orally).

GRADE 2 STUDENTS: SL.2.2 Retell or describe key ideas or details from a text read aloud or information presented in various media and other formats (e.g., orally).

OHIO LANGUAGE STANDARDS

The following standards for grades K–12 offer a focus for instruction each year to help ensure that students gain adequate mastery of a range of skills and applications. Students advancing through the grades should meet each year's grade-specific standards and retain or further develop skills and understandings mastered in preceding grades.

KINDERGARTNERS: L.K.2 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing. a. Capitalize the first word in a sentence and the pronoun I. b. Recognize and name end punctuation. c. Write a letter or letters for most consonant and short-vowel phonemes (sounds). d. Spell simple words phonetically, drawing on knowledge of sound-letter relationships.

GRADE 1 STUDENTS: L.1.2 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing. a. Capitalize dates and names of people. b. Use end punctuation for sentences. c. Use commas in dates and to separate single words in a series. d. Use conventional spelling for words with common spelling patterns and for frequently occurring irregular words. e. Spell untaught words phonetically, drawing on phonemic awareness and spelling conventions.

GRADE 2 STUDENTS: L.2.2 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing. a. Capitalize holidays, product names, and geographic names. b. Use commas in greetings and closings of letters. c. Use an apostrophe to form contractions and frequently occurring possessives. d. Generalize learned spelling patterns when writing words (e.g., cage → badge; boy → boil). e. Consult reference materials, including beginning dictionaries, as needed to check and correct spellings.



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Veronica Dean

The SPCA Cincinnati offers Humane Education for Children of the Greater Cincinnati Area, visiting schools, scout troops, and other groups. We believe that respect for all life starts with teaching children to respect animals, which includes learning about safety and responsible pet care.

In 2023, the SPCA Cincinnati celebrates 150 years as a humane society and one of our goals for our 150th Anniversary is to visit 150 schools.

We are pleased to introduce you to Veronica Dean, our Humane Education Manager. Veronica brings with her over 35 years of educational teaching experience, a Master's Degree in Education and an extensive resume of institutions where she has provided learning at all age groups.

"My life's passion is to empower people to become lifelong learners through exciting science and/or educational experiences."

-Veronica Dean

Contact Us:

If you have any questions about one of our programs and would like to schedule a Humane Education visit, please feel free to contact us by email at vdean@spcacincinnati.org , or call (513) 541-6100

ABOUT the SPCA CINCINNATI:

Founded in 1873, the **SPCA Cincinnati** has a long history of service to the Greater Cincinnati community. Originally founded as the Ohio Humane Society, it was the first organization of its kind in Ohio. In 1907, the name was changed to The Hamilton County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and is currently DBA as the **SPCA Cincinnati**.

The **SPCA Cincinnati** IS your hometown Humane Society, **AND HAS BEEN SINCE 1873**. We are the problem solvers for everything animal-related from pet adoptions to vaccination clinics. We provide care for any animals that come to the shelter: food, medical needs, exercise, enrichment, and affection to get them ready to go to their new homes. We do all we can to support people so that pet surrender is a last resort, such as providing pet food donations for those under financial strain and behavioral training. We are the pet placement experts locally and across our nation. We partner with other "People" social service agencies to keep pets within their current homes and to improve their quality of life. We value innovative educational techniques to keep pets at home, to enrich shelter life, to promote humane treatment of all animals and prevent pet overpopulation.

