

Title of Project: Animal Explorations

Grade Level: 1-6th

Number of Students Participating:

Contributed by: Michelle Dunstan

Teacher:

School: ANSER Charter School

District or County: Boise School District



Overview/Description of Project:

Learn about local animal welfare organizations and meet a need for the animals at one of these organizations.

Goals:

Learn about compassion to animals.

Core Content Areas:

(teacher completes this section)

Civic Responsibility: Responsibility of citizens caring for others (Role of a Citizen).

Literacy connection

- *Each Living Thing* by Joanne Ryder
- *The Four Ugly Cats in Apartment 3D* by Marilyn Sachs
- *Animal Welfare: What's That Got to Do with Me?* by Antony Lishak

PARC MODEL STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

STEP 1: PREPARATION

Community contact

- Local animal welfare organizations
- Northwest Animal Companions, Boise, ID
- parents /volunteers could facilitate this module

Focus Questions connecting with the Guiding Questions of the session

- How can we show compassion to animals?
- Why should we care about animals?

- How does this community agency care for the animals in our community?
- Tour a local pet store (i.e. Petsmart)
- Meet a local animal welfare organization animal

STEP 2: ACTION

Suggested action:

- Make dog beds, zoo enrichment activities for zoo animals,
- Go to a hippo therapy organization to clean stalls (i.e. Ride for Joy)

STEP 3: REFLECTION (Reflection is not sequential; rather it is encouraged throughout the lesson)

Have students answer these questions either by writing in a journal or open discussion:

- What does compassion mean to you?
- How did you and other students show compassion today?
- If you had a magic wand and could make changes in the lives of the animals in your service project. What would they be and why?

STEP 4: CELEBRATION

Service Celebration: the students from the Animal Explorations module will create a display board which will include who was in the module, what was learned, and depiction of the service performed by this module. At this event, the whole school celebrates the service of all the students.