

# Topics Guide

## **Animal Knowledge Presentations**

**Dog Days: Explore K9 senses and learn basic dog behaviors for animal and community safety.**

**(Grades 2-5) NGSS:** 3-LS3-2 (environmental influences), 3-LS4-2 & 3 (characteristics & survival, adaptations), 4-LS1-1 & 2 (senses & information processing). **HSS:** 3.1.2. **Health Ed.:** 4.1.1.S. **SEL:** Social-Awareness and Perspective Taking.

**Cat Chats: Compare the physical and behavioral attributes between Wild and Domestic cats through an interactive True-or-False Game. Find out what pet cats need and why!**

**(Grades 2-5) NGSS:** 3-LS2-1 (animal groups), 3-LS4-3 (adaptations), 4-LS1-1 (senses & information processing). **Health Ed.:** 4.1.1.S.

**K9 and Feline Support: Students will learn about common dog and cat owner responsibilities, in addition to building connections between the needs of humans and animals.**

**(Grades K-5) NGSS:** K-LS1-1 (animal needs), 4-LS1-1 & 2 (senses & information processing). **Health Ed.:** K.4.1.S, 4.1.1.S

**SEL:** Self and Social-Awareness, Perspective Taking.

**Barnyard Buddies: Meet classic county fair and farm animals to recognize their specific social and husbandry requirements.**

**(Grades K-3) NGSS:** K-LS1-1 (animal behavior), 1-LS1-2 (survival), 3-LS2-1 (animal groups), 3-LS4-3 (adaptations).

**HSS:** K.4, 1.4, 3.5 (community and agriculture). **SEL:** Social-Awareness and Perspective Taking.

**Pocket Pals: Students are introduced to common pocket pets (hamsters, guinea pigs, rats, rabbits) and how similar their basic needs are with each other.**

**(Grades K-3) NGSS:** K-LS1-1 (animal behavior), 1-LS1-2 (survival), 3-LS2-1 (animal groups). **HSS:** K.4.

**Health Ed.:** K.4.1.S, 4.1.1.S

**Pet Protection: Spay & Neuter programs will be discussed to inform students the importance and benefits of animal population control.**

**(Grades 3-5) NGSS:** 3-LS4-4 (ethics and solutions). **HSS:** 3.1.2

## **Community Builder Presentations**

**Creating Kindness: Raising awareness on bullying, how bullying and animal abuse are related, and what people can do to enact and advocate safety for all.**

**(Grades 2-5) NGSS:** 3-LS4-4 (ethics and solutions). **HSS:** 3.4.2. **Health Ed.:** 3.4.2.G, K.4.1.S, 4.1.1.S. **SEL:** Self and Social-Awareness, Perspective Taking, Self-Management.

**Careers in Animal Welfare: An introduction to various animal-related careers from medical to law enforcement and their pathways.**

**(Grades 3-5) SEL:** Self and Social-Awareness, Perspective Taking, Self-Management.

**Animal Control Visit: Meet one of our Animal Control Officers! Learn about the important role animal control officers play in protecting both people and animals.**

**(K-5) SEL:** Self and Social-Awareness, Perspective Taking, Self-Management.

The Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter Foundation's mission is to support the Shelter through education, advocacy and fundraising. As a nonprofit 501(c)3, the Foundation helps cover basic services and tackle root causes of animal overpopulation and suffering by offering prevention programs, exceptional medical care, humane education and community outreach. More info can be found at [scanimalshelterfoundation.org](http://scanimalshelterfoundation.org)

