



Schools & Student Community Projects

Neighbors for Animals

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Students Helping Animals & Our Community

We're excited to see schools, students, and members of our community reaching out to find ways to get involved! Community involvement is an important part of what we do at Neighbors for Animals, and we love seeing young people take an interest in helping animals and making a difference.

Below are some project ideas for schools, classrooms, and student groups looking for community service opportunities. These are simply suggestions, and we welcome your own creative ideas, too!

Whether your students need volunteer hours, are working on a class project, or simply want to give back, there are many ways to get involved.

Projects can be completed individually, as a classroom, or as a group. Many can be done right at school, with little expense and no need to organize a large event.

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Ways Students Can Help

I. Pet Food & Supply Drives

Pet Food, Toy & Supply Drive

Organize a schoolwide or classroom collection of unopened pet food, new or gently used toys, leashes, collars, food bowls, blankets, carriers, or other essential supplies to help local animals and families in need. Gently used items should be clean and in good condition.

Decorate Donation Collection Boxes

Students can design and decorate collection boxes for pet food and supplies. These boxes can be placed at participating local businesses to encourage ongoing community donations.

II. Community Cat Shelter Projects

Winter Cat Shelter Project

Students can help build insulated outdoor shelters for community cats or organize a collection of needed materials, such as storage containers and other approved supplies. Neighbors for Animals can provide instructions and guidance.



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III. Animal Welfare Education Projects & Activities

Young Minds Inspiring Change

We love seeing young people take an interest in animal welfare! These projects give students an opportunity to explore important issues, express their creativity, and make a positive impact in their community.

Students can choose a topic that interests them, learn more about it, and develop their own educational project. Whether it's a poster, interactive game, activity, or creative display, there are many ways to share what they've learned and encourage others to care about animals.

Examples of educational topics:

- **Spay/Neuter & Prevention:** Benefits of sterilization, animal overpopulation, unwanted litters, and common myths.
- **Responsible Pet Ownership:** Basic pet needs, veterinary care, vaccinations, microchipping, parasite prevention, and lifelong responsibility.
- **Kindness, Compassion & Responsibility:** Treating animals with kindness and respect, understanding their needs, showing empathy, and recognizing our responsibility to care for them.
- **Animal Laws & Safety:** Texas animal cruelty laws, dog tethering restrictions, shelter requirements, rabies vaccinations, and preventing dog bites.
- **Community Cats & TNR:** Trap-Neuter-Return, ear-tipped cats, helping outdoor cats, kitten safety, and community cat shelters.
- **Pet Safety & Emergencies:** Heatstroke, extreme weather, hurricane preparedness, toxic foods, injured animals, and holiday safety.
- **Adoption & Fostering:** Responsible adoption, fostering, safe rehoming, and preventing abandonment.
- **Community Involvement & Advocacy:** Helping animals in underserved communities, supporting pet owners in need, and advocating for animal welfare.

Examples of creative project ideas:

- Educational displays
- Informational posters and flyers
- Animal welfare games: trivia, pet true-or-false, animal safety matching games.

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- Animal kindness pledge boards
- Coloring pages, puzzles, or activity booklets
- Educational activities for younger children

Students are welcome to come up with their own ideas! Projects can be designed for different age groups, including younger children, families, and the general public.

As part of our **Compassion Starts Young** program, Neighbors for Animals would love to share student-created projects during school visits, community events, and outreach activities, giving their work an opportunity to reach even more people.

Our goal is to encourage young people to learn, get creative, and discover how they can make a difference for animals in their own community.

IV. Handmade Items & Creative Projects

Students can create items for Neighbors for Animals to offer at community events, use as giveaways, or provide in exchange for donations.

Some ideas may include:

- Braided fleece dog toys
- Bookmarks featuring animal welfare messages
- Painted kindness rocks
- Handmade arts and crafts
- Decorated picture frames
- Hand-painted animal-themed flowerpots
- Homemade pet-themed greeting cards
- Animal-themed keychains, bracelets, or other handmade accessories
- Animal-themed decorations and signs

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V. Student-Led Fundraising

Student Fundraising Projects

Schools and student groups can also organize small fundraising activities to support our community programs.

Ideas include:

- Bake sales
- Spare-change drives
- Handmade craft sales
- Schoolwide donation challenges
- Pet-themed fundraising activities
- Classroom fundraising competitions

Funds raised can help support spay/neuter assistance, veterinary care, pet food and supplies, community cat projects, and other outreach efforts. Students may also use the funds they raise to purchase and donate specific items or supplies needed by Neighbors for Animals.

Have Your Own Project Idea?

We welcome student creativity!

Students and teachers are encouraged to develop their own projects that help animals, support pet owners, promote responsible pet care, or address animal welfare needs in our community.

These are just a few ideas to get you started! We encourage students and groups to explore their own interests, get creative, and choose projects that are meaningful to them.

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How to Get Involved

Interested in organizing a project with your school, classroom, club, or youth group?

Contact Neighbors for Animals and tell us a little about your group, the type of project you're interested in, and when you'd like to complete it.

We'll work with you to identify a project that fits your students' ages, abilities, and available resources.

Projects should be coordinated with Neighbors for Animals in advance so we can confirm current needs, materials, and arrangements for receiving completed projects or donations.

Together, we can give students an opportunity to make a real difference while helping animals and families in our community.

Interested in getting involved?

Reach out to us at **info@neighborsforanimals.org**

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