

It's Fashionable to be Kind to Animals



By Anderson Animal Shelter

Featured Sponsor: DePaw University Canine Campus

These days, it's not cool to be cruel. Kindness towards all living creatures is in fashion. Awareness of animal welfare issues is at an all-time high. Public outrage is the norm when stories about bullied children or abused animals present themselves on the news.



However, there is much work to be done in teaching the next generation how to be empathic individuals. Studies show that spending time with animals as children increases empathy and emotional intelligence, which are crucial skills needed for success in today's world.

Anderson Animal Shelter understands the importance of teaching our children about vital animal welfare issues and the role it plays in breaking the cycle of animal abuse and neglect. That's why our Humane Education Department offers so many innovative programs. New programs this year include shelter birthday parties, specialty programs such as a writing workshop, and a program where your child can read to shelter animals.

If you would like more information about any of our exciting programs, please visit our website at www.andersonanimalshelter.org or contact our Community Outreach Coordinator, Carrie Frost, by email at cfrost@andersonanimalshelter.org or by phone at 847-697-2880 ex.51. Registration for most programs is now conveniently available online.

SHELTER BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Do you want to throw your child a birthday party they will not forget? Have your child's birthday party at the shelter. Your child will enjoy a two-hour birthday party filled with animal interaction. For \$200, your child will have the birthday party of a lifetime and the opportunity to help the animals at the shelter.

BIRTHDAY BUDDY PROGRAM

Want to celebrate your birthday offsite by giving to animals? Participate in our Birthday Buddy Program which gives kids an opportunity to collect gifts for shelter animals in celebration of their own birthday. All you have to do is simply send out our wish list (found on our website) with your birthday party invitations, asking your guests to help a shelter animal by

making a donation. The birthday boy or girl receives an official Birthday Buddy Certificate.

SHELTER TAILS

Shelter Tails is an onsite reading program that takes place every Wednesday from 3:30 – 6 pm, and is for children ages 5 – 12 years of age. Shelters can be a stressful place for animals, and reading out loud to them can help reduce some of that stress they experience. Not only that, but animals provide a judgment-free audience for your child to practice their reading skills. While this program is free of charge, a small donation is always appreciated. Reserve your time to read out-loud to the animals on our website.

ANIMAL CRACKERS WRITING WORKSHOP

If you love animals and love to write then plan to join us for one of our writing workshops. These classes will be led by a creative writing specialist and will be focused on animals and animal shelters. Two classes are offered, one for ages 13 - adult and another for ages 6-12. Various writing prompts and games will be utilized to enhance writing skills and creativity. Seating is limited and cost is only \$10 per participant.

KIDS & KRITTERS

Two-hour interactive animal encounters for children ages seven through twelve. Participants engage in activities in an educational and fun environment. Sessions cost only \$15 each. Kids & Kritters is perfect for any small group such as Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, youth groups, clubs and more.

CRITTER CAMP

Learn about animals during the summer! Campers will spend a week at day camp engaged in arts & crafts, games, and activities with an animal welfare theme. There is plenty of hands-on time with shelter animals as well. The cost for the week-long camp is \$170.00 which includes all camp supplies, activities, and end of the week party and prizes.

SHELTER TOUR

Interested in learning more about what we do? Schedule a tour for your group or we can come to you and do a presentation. A tour can make a fun field trip and is an opportunity to see many shelter animals. On the other hand, having a guest speaker come in to class is great for a student project or as an informative tool for teachers.



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