



High School: Animal Cruelty, Bullying & Interpersonal Violence

In-Class Lesson Plan

Introduction

Humane education examines the relationship between animals and people, recognizing that we share many of the same physical and emotional needs. Concepts learned through humane education promote and encourage further development of important character and life-building skills including empathy, sensitivity, responsibility, respect, compassion and kindness to all living beings. Knowledge of humane education concepts allow individuals to develop responsible and humane decision making, creating a kinder community.

Learning Objectives

The purpose of this three-part lesson plan is to help students understand the meaning of animal cruelty, bullying and interpersonal violence and how they can make a difference by raising awareness in their community. By the end of the lesson, students will:

- Understand the different forms of animal cruelty and how to identify them.
- Be aware of the link between interpersonal violence and animal cruelty.
- Become aware of the motives behind abuse.
- Be empowered to advocate and help change the lives of abused animals and people.

Curriculum Link

All OHS humane education topics are available by grade level and are linked directly with the Ontario Curriculum. The *Animal Cruelty, Bullying & Interpersonal Violence* lesson aligns with the **Social Sciences and Humanities: Equity, Diversity and Social Justice** component of the Ontario high school curriculum. According to the overall expectations identified in the curriculum, by the end the course students should be able to:

- Explore a variety of topics related to equity, diversity and social justice to identify topics for research and inquiry.
- Describe the effects of discrimination and oppression on individuals and groups.
- Describe ways in which one's personal choices or behaviour can help empower individuals and reduce the impact of inequity or social injustice.
- Explain how the media and popular culture can help create awareness of equity and social justice.

Lesson Plan Summary

Day One: Animal Cruelty, Bullying and Interpersonal Violence Lesson (Appendix 1)

- Begin teaching the lesson by facilitating the *Animal Cruelty, Bullying and Interpersonal Violence* presentation. Teachers can book an OHS humane educator to facilitate the presentation, using the online booking form: <http://www.ottawahumane.ca/youth-programs/teacher-resources/classroom-presentations/humane-education-request-form/>.
- The presentation is also available for distribution if teachers would like to facilitate the presentation independently. We update our content regularly to ensure that it is always up-to-date and accurate. To ensure teachers have access to the updated content, the PowerPoint presentation is available electronically, by emailing humaneeducation@ottawahumane.ca.
- Leave time for a question and answer period at the end of the lesson. Students love to share their own stories about pets and animals – if time permits, allow them to share stories and help them draw conclusions about their experiences that relate to the lesson.

Day Two: Animal Cruelty, Bullying and Interpersonal Violence Quiz (Appendix 2)

- Separate class into groups of three and handout the *Animal Cruelty, Bullying and Interpersonal Violence Quiz Sheet*.
- Present the *Animal Cruelty, Bullying and Interpersonal Violence Quiz* Powerpoint question section.
- Allow the students time after each quiz question to come up with answers before changing the slide to the next question.
- Present the *Animal Cruelty, Bullying and Interpersonal Violence Quiz* Powerpoint answer section.

Day Three: Make a Movie (Appendix 3)

- Divide the class into groups of four to six (depending on the number of students).
- Follow the instructions provided on the *Make A Movie* Instruction Template. Students will be challenged to think of a situation where an animal or person is being subjected to cruelty, bullying or violence and must portray how a bystander can take action.
- The group will make a short film displaying how the person or animal is being mistreated and how a person could intervene.
- Groups will have an opportunity to watch each produced movie with the rest of the class and discuss them.

Appendix 1: Animal Cruelty, Bullying and Interpersonal Violence

Introduction

This presentation is one hour in duration and links directly to the high school curriculum within the subject of **Social Sciences and Humanities: Equity, Diversity and Social Justice**. The presentation explores the following topics:

- *An introduction to the OHS*
- *Key terms in animal welfare*
- *What is animal cruelty, interpersonal violence and bullying*
- *The link between animal cruelty and interpersonal violence*
- *Ways in which they can make a change and take action*

REMINDER – A humane educator can be scheduled to facilitate the presentation using the online booking form: <http://www.ottawahumane.ca/youth-programs/teacher-resources/classroom-presentations/humane-education-request-form/>. Alternatively, the PowerPoint presentation is available electronically by emailing humaneeducation@ottawahumane.ca.

Appendix 2: *Animal Cruelty, Bullying and Interpersonal Violence Quiz*

Overview

Students will reflect and answer questions on presented material from the *Animal Cruelty, Bullying and Interpersonal Violence* presentation.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Objective | For students to demonstrate their new knowledge of animal cruelty, bullying and interpersonal violence. |
| Time Needed | 45 minutes |
| Materials Needed | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Animal Cruelty, Bullying and Interpersonal Violence Quiz PowerPoint</i>• <i>Animal Cruelty, Bullying and Interpersonal Violence Quiz Sheet</i>• Pens/pencils |

Procedure

1. Divide the students into groups of three.
2. Distribute one *Animal Cruelty, Bullying and Interpersonal Violence Quiz Sheet* to each group.
3. Present the question section of *Animal Cruelty, Bullying and Interpersonal Violence Quiz PowerPoint*.
4. Allow each group time to discuss their answers and record them after each slide.
5. Present the *Animal Cruelty, Bullying and Interpersonal Violence Quiz PowerPoint – answer section* with the class, having each group take turns to answer the questions, prior to showing the answers.

Animal Cruelty, Bullying and Interpersonal Violence Quiz Sheet

Question 1:

Question 2:

A)

B)

C)

Question 3:

Question 4:

Question 5:

A)

B)

C)

Question 6:

A)

B)

C)

Question 7:

Question 8:

Yes or no? _____

Why?

Question 9:

A)

B)

C)

Question 10:

Appendix 3: *Make a Movie* Instructions

Overview

Through participating in this interactive small, group activity, students will learn about animal cruelty, bullying and interpersonal violence and what appropriate actions should be taken. Students will create a short film to demonstrate how animal cruelty, bullying and interpersonal violence can be stopped.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Objective | For students to be more aware of these important issues and feel empowered to make a positive change to end unnecessary suffering. |
| Time Needed | 2 hours |
| Materials Needed | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pen and paper or computer (for ideas and brainstorming)• Props• Phone or camera to record film• <i>Movie Making</i> template sheet |

Procedure

1. Introduce the topic by asking students to brainstorm ways in which animals or people can be mistreated by others.
2. Divide the class into groups of four to six students.
3. Distribute one *Movie Making* template sheet to each group.
4. Instruct each group to choose a situation where someone is being cruel to animals, bullying a peer or being violent towards another person.
5. Have the groups come up with ways that a bystander could help the victim.
6. Give each group time to come up with the situation and make the movie using the *Movie Making* template sheet.
7. Ask each group to share their film with the rest of the class.

Make a Movie Instruction Template

When making a film it's important to follow a story line that makes it easy for the audience to understand. With that in mind, be sure to include the following:

- Introduction of the important characters
- Display the imbalance of power between the victim and abuser
- Show the abuse, bullying or violence
 - NOTE! Avoid graphic content that could be offensive or trigger PTSD
- Bystander steps in to help
- Victim is helped and abuser is penalized
- Take home message

Follow these tips:

Storyboard

- A storyboard is a great way to plan out how your presentation or video will run. We recommend using the FREE online storyboard tool on Canva to get started: <https://www.canva.com/create/storyboards/>.

Script

- Once your visual story board is created, begin working on the script.
- Keep focused on your message and goal to ensure that you don't lose the focus of your audience.

Establishing Roles

- Select which classmates will participate as actors in the video.
- Other roles might include: camera operator, director, prop/costume design or script supervisor.

Practice

- Practice, practice, practice! This is an important part of making a high quality production and the best way to work out any logistical issues before actual filming takes place.

Gathering Supplies

- Make a list of all the props, costumes and supplies you need.

Filming

- A video isn't filmed in one take. You will need to film each scene individually.
- Rely on your storyboard and plan in advance.
- You might need to do more than one or two takes to get it right.

