

Incorporating Animals & Us into teaching and learning

Values and the curriculum

One of the key benefits of the Animals & Us resources is the opportunity to develop and explore values. Learners can:

- Explore their connection with animals and the environment
- Develop respect, compassion and empathy towards other animals
- Consider the values of those who make compassionate lifestyle choices
- Discuss, analyse and express differences in values when it comes to the treatment of non-human animals.

Ethics

The Animals & Us resources pose important questions about how we treat non-human animals, such as:

- How does our treatment of animals define our society and nation?
- What defines our moral and ethical obligations towards other species?
- Should personal desires or economic considerations ever take priority over moral and ethical obligations?

Pedagogical advantages

Multi and interdisciplinary opportunities

The themes explored in Animals & Us cross a number of learning areas (English, Social Studies, Biology, and Science) and the ideas and themes often overlap.

- Interdisciplinary exploration fosters the development of deeper cognitive faculties and the ability to make critical connections between the different areas of learning.

Tapping into interests

Many young people have a keen interest in animals and nature.

- Resources focused on these themes will encourage learners to draw on existing enthusiasm and knowledge.

Critical thinking

Animal imagery and human-animal interactions are embedded in our everyday lives.

- The themes in Animals & Us provide an excellent opportunity to provoke learners into a more critical, less passive, relationship with unexamined ideas.
- The themes are intensified by daily encounters with the image-and-information-saturated culture in which we live.

School speakers

In some areas SAFE has speakers who are available for school talks. There are many advantages to inviting a speaker to your school:

Exploring values

- A SAFE speaker can provide your students with a personal account of what inspires and motivates people to speak out for animals.

Connecting with others

- SAFE speakers often have first-hand knowledge, understanding and experience of the issues surrounding animal exploitation.

Learning to learn

- Your students can practise their interview and information gathering techniques.

Speakers are available for:

- classroom visits
- assembly presentations
- library talks
- lunchtime discussions.

If you would like a SAFE speaker to visit your school, please contact SAFE's Head of Education for information and bookings:

Nichola Kriek
nichola@safe.org.nz

*NOTE: SAFE speakers are only available in certain centres:
<http://www.safe.org.nz/speakers/>*



For more information about Animals & Us or any of SAFE's educational services, please contact:

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ANIMALS&US

ADVANCE CRITICAL THINKING

Animal-focused teaching resources for secondary schools.



Advancing knowledge and critical thinking about the relationship between human and non-human animals while fostering attitudes and values of compassion, respect and empathy.





Animals & Us textbooks

About Animals & Us

Animals & Us is an education programme created by SAFE.

The main goals of Animals & Us are:

- To provide professional resources specifically designed for the New Zealand curriculum
- To advance knowledge and critical thinking about the social, economic, political, environmental and scientific relationships between human and non-human animals.

Since 2007 every secondary school in New Zealand has received free copies of the popular Animals & Us education series.

Specifically designed for the New Zealand curriculum, each Animals & Us textbook includes the following features:

- A selection of curriculum-linked lesson plans
- A wide variety of written and visual texts including book and journal extracts, magazine and newspaper articles, online texts and weblinks
- A DVD with visual and oral texts including film extracts, documentaries and news items

"The information is up-to-date, extremely informative and helps the students to make up their own minds on these important issues."

Angela Peters
Librarian/ Archivist
Morrinsville College



Issue 1

Battery Hen Farming in New Zealand: A Critical Evaluation

Designed for the English curriculum, this topical resource explores an issue that has become one of New Zealand's most recognised and hotly debated animal issues – the treatment of battery hens.



Issue 2

Animal Rights, Human Values, Social Action

Designed for the Social Studies curriculum, this thought-provoking resource invites students to consider a social justice movement with a long history of compassion and consideration – animal rights.

NOTE: Animal Rights, Human Values, Social Action is out of print. Materials can be downloaded from the Animals & Us website: animalsandus.org.nz



Issue 3

Animals on Show: A Critical Analysis of the Animal Entertainment Industry

Designed for the English, Social Studies and Science curricula, this multidisciplinary resource analyses and critically considers the use of animals for entertainment purposes.



Issue 4

Animals in Science: Ethical Arguments and Alternatives to Animal Experiments

Designed for the Science and Biology curricula, this resource discusses the ethics and validity of animal experiments and provides options for learning about animals scientifically without causing them harm.



Issue 5

Animals in Factory Farms: Thinking Critically about our Treatment of Animals

Designed for the Social Studies, English, Science and Biology curricula, this resource explores the treatment of animals in modern-day factory farms where animals are reduced to products and profit margins take priority over animal welfare.



Animals & Us online

Visit animalsandus.org.nz to view and download lessons and resources from the Animals & Us textbooks.

animalsandus.org.nz

Order Animals & Us

Secondary schools can order free copies of the Animals & Us textbooks here:

safe.org.nz/contact-orders

