



## Animals & The Environment

**Unit description:** KidzCare's unit on *Animals & The Environment* will help your child begin to understand the needs of animals in our society. Your child will learn about the needs of homeless pets through a study of the Humane Society and various animal rescue organizations. Also included is a study of endangered species, and your student will complete a take-home assignment about one particular endangered animal and how we can help preserve them. Students will also study the related topic of preserving our environment for future generations, and will learn about recycling and trash, energy conservation, and water quality. Students will learn to become good stewards of the earth and its resources.

A sense of responsibility for animals and the environment will be developed in students as they discover the value in protecting our non-human companions and the planet we share. The KidzCare curriculum is also designed to help students develop a sense of gratitude.

Each class will include age-appropriate instruction on the topic of the day, plus a hands-on service project for your child to complete in class that will help your child feel a sense of empowerment and hope when learning about these difficult social issues.

**Academic subject alignment:** KidzCare's *Animals & The Environment* unit includes instruction that aligns with some of the academic curriculum objectives in the following areas:

- Science-Skills and Processes (Maryland State Curriculum Standard 1.0)
- Science-Chemistry (Maryland State Curriculum Standard 4.0)
- Science-Environmental Science (Maryland State Curriculum Standard 6.0)
- Mathematics-Knowledge of Measurement (Maryland State Curriculum Standard 3.0)
- Mathematics-Knowledge of Statistics (Maryland State Curriculum Standard 4.0)
- English-General Reading Processes (Maryland State Curriculum Standard 1.0)
- English-Comprehension of Informational Text (Maryland State Curriculum Standard 2.0)
- English-Comprehension of Literary Text (Maryland State Curriculum Standard 3.0)

**Service Learning Credit:** Your child will receive 10 hours of service-learning credit for attending all sessions of the *Animals & The Environment* unit, and will receive a Certificate of Completion at the end of this unit. We encourage all students in KidzCare programs to set a goal of completing at least 50 hours of service between September and May, which will qualify them to receive the President's Volunteer Service Award.

**Eligibility to attend volunteer events:** By registering for this unit, students will be eligible to attend all of KidzCare's one-time volunteer events that include issues relating to animals or the environment. Examples of such events include: annual Potomac River Watershed clean-up, Earth Day events, Amman Imman's Walk For Water, pony grooming, and others.