CULTIVATING COMPASSION
A guide to Humane Education Services and Programs
at Maui Humane Society

Drawing by Animal Camper Summer Coronesi, age 7
Dear Educator,

We at Maui Humane Society understand that a better life for the people and companion animals of the island begins with providing Maui’s youth with the information and resources they need to be responsible pet owners and advocates for the humane treatment of all living things. With this in mind, we would like to make it easier for you to take advantage of our agency as a resource by providing you with this “Humane Education Kit”, which has all the information and materials you will need to:

- book educational presentations
- book shelter tours
- provide your students with information about educational programs offered by MHS
- coordinate with Maui Humane Society on class community service and fundraising projects
- integrate humane education concepts into your classroom curriculum

We are always looking for ways to improve our programs and better serve the community, so you will also find enclosed a feedback form that we invite you to complete and return to us, so that you can let us know what your animal-related interests, concerns and needs are as an educator. If you have any questions or concerns, or would like to learn more about the educational programs and services we offer, I invite you to call me at (808) 877-360 ext. 20, or e-mail Education@MauiHumaneSociety.org and I will do my best to provide you with the information you need. Mahalo for all that you do for your students and I hope to hear from you soon!

Sincerely,

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Educational Presentations

For years Maui Humane Society has been partnering with schools, enrichment programs and community groups to provide Maui’s people with the information and resources they need to advocate kindness, compassion and respect for all forms of life. Maui Humane Society offers educational presentations on a wide variety of animal-related topics for every age group. Topics range in length but generally run from 30 minutes (for Pre-K – Grade 1) to an hour.

Booking an Educational Presentation

To book an educational presentation, educators must submit a Educational Presentation Request Form at least TWO weeks in advance of the proposed date. If you would like a live animal to be incorporated into the presentation, this needs to be indicated on the request form and the form must be submitted at least THREE weeks in advance of the proposed date. Once your request is received, you will be contacted by our Education and Outreach Coordinator to confirm and schedule your request. Please note that submitting a request does not guarantee a reservation. The sooner you submit your request the more likely we will be able to accommodate it.

Extended Collaborations

Some programs prefer to work with Maui Humane Society on a recurring basis, with the MHS representative meeting with students regularly to build upon previous lessons and explore animal issues more thoroughly. Provided we have the resources available, MHS can work with educators to devise an extended curriculum. If you are interested in this type of collaboration, please indicate this on your request form and submit a brief description of what you have in mind. Because these programs require more preparation, requests for extended collaborations must be submitted at least one month in advance.

Help Us Make Progress

Educator feedback is integral to the development of our educational programs; we’ll need your help to serve you better. If you are interested in learning more about a topic not covered by our current curriculum, please let us know by visiting the Education section of our website and sharing your thoughts. Your insight could be the foundation of a new presentation!
The following is a summary of all education presentations that are currently available. Each presentation will begin with an age-appropriate Introduction to Maui Humane Society and conclude with a question and answer session.

**For Ages 6 And Under**

**Pet Story Time**

Groups can choose from a collection of age-appropriate, relevant literature selected by the Education and Outreach Coordinator. Literature covers the following topics: how to be considerate of live animals, pet ownership responsibility, safe dog handling, cat behavior, understanding the life of a shelter animal, the importance of spay/neuter, disaster preparedness, and pocket pet care.

"What Pets Need": The Basic Needs of Domestic Animals

This unit covers the basic needs of food, water, shelter, exercise and love in an age-appropriate manner and provides each child with a take-home coloring sheet that has more detailed information about basic pet needs on the back for parents.

"Listen to the Animals": A Lesson in Pet Safety

This unit focuses on proper pet handling with focus on the unique needs of cats, dogs and pocket pets. We emphasize the importance of respecting an animal’s space and allowing them to feel safe around us. The lesson includes a reading of the book ‘Tails Are Not For Pulling’ and each child is provided with Animal Safety posters that highlight the special needs of cats, dogs and pocket pets, with more detailed information on the back for parents.

**For Ages 7-10**
Kindness, Care, Compassion and Respect

This unit teaches different ways we can show kindness, care, compassion and respect—not only to each other, but to our animal friends. It is meant to serve as a more thorough lesson about the Maui Humane Society and its mission statement. It examines how the services we provide (spay/neuter, pet responsibility, prevention of cruelty) support these missions. The lesson is supplemented by a power point presentation.

Animals Have Feelings Too! Exploring Empathy for Animals

This unit focuses on developing a sense of empathy for animals in an age-appropriate manner. Students will explore different types of emotions and role-play to discover the shared emotional bond between pets and humans. This unit includes a reading of the short story “Rusty and Raymond”, followed by a discussion.

Animals Do Many Things: Exploring the Human/Animal Bond

This unit focuses on developing appreciation for what animals provide to humans, other animals and the environment. Students are provided with an activity sheet with detailed information on the back for parents outlining the benefits of children owning pets, and how caring for a pet can boost self-esteem, award confidence and a sense of responsibility.

“Listen to the Animals”: A Lesson in Pet Safety (for ages 7-10)

This unit focuses on proper pet handling in a manner appropriate for kids ages 7-10. The lesson includes more detailed curriculum on dog and cat handling, including readings from the books “May I Pet Your Dog?” and “Oh, Theodore!” along with a discussion of the diagram “How To Pet My Cat”. Subject to advance notice, this presentation is supplemented by a pocket pet with a hands-on lesson in animal handling. Each student will be provided with an age-appropriate take-home sheet that outlines proper techniques for handling dogs, cats and pocket pets.

Junior Pet Owners

This unit covers the process of choosing a pet that meets your family’s needs and discusses the many responsibilities associated with pet ownership in an age-appropriate manner. Subject to advance notice, this lesson can be supplemented by a live animal visitor, along with examples of pet care supplies that would be needed to maintain that animal’s happiness and comfort. If an animal is not able to accompany the EOC, this unit is supplemented by a reading of the short story “Greg’s Dilemma” and a 30-minute film “Paws, Claws, Feathers and Fins”.

![Image of children engaged in an activity]
For Ages 11 and up

**Pet Overpopulation: Symptoms and Solutions**

This unit discusses how pet overpopulation is a major issue in animal welfare, as well as the role of euthanasia as a symptom of the problem, not a solution. The lesson reinforces spay/neuter as a preventative solution to overpopulation and includes an overview of MHS’s SNARP/SNIP Program. The group is given information regarding what they can do to help control the pet overpopulation problem. This unit is supplemented by the video “The Power of Compassion” and our information handouts on spay/neuter and euthanasia.

**Animal Advocacy: What You Can Do to Help**

This unit discusses the preventative role of education and outreach in protecting the welfare of animals in our community. For groups ages 11-17 the unit is supplemented by a power point presentation on the Junior Animal Advocates of Maui Program, and for groups 18+ the unit is supplemented by a power point presentation on volunteer opportunities at the Maui Humane Society. Each group member is provided with an ‘Animal Advocate Kit’ that provides handouts, brochures and additional resources and is encouraged to share information with their community.

**Breaking the Cycle of Abuse: The Link Between Animal Cruelty and Domestic Violence**

This unit begins by drawing a distinction between unintentional neglect and intentional cruelty, and explores the link between animal cruelty and domestic violence. This lesson is supplemented by the video “Patterns of Abuse: Exploding the Cycle”. Each group member is provided with a copy of the booklet “Understanding Animal Cruelty” and an information handout on Regulations and Laws, including how to report incidences of intentional cruelty.

**The Face of Dogfighting**

This unit explores common misconceptions about the Pit Bull Terrier ‘breed’ and is supplemented by the HSUS short films “The Face of Dog-Fighting: One Dog’s Incredible Journey” and “Life on the Chain, Death in the Ring”. If there is adequate time, the unit is supplemented by a power point presentation that discusses the reasons why considering dog-fighting a ‘cultural tradition’ is a weak argument for the justification of animal cruelty. Each member of the group is provided with the Dog-Fighting Action Pack provided by HSUS and a copy of our Regulations and Laws handout.

**Careers in Animal Care**

This unit provides an overview of different careers in animal care, including the many different ways employees of Maui Humane Society work to care for the animals of Maui. This unit is supplemented by information handouts that provide information about each department at MHS.
High School – Adult

Pet Ownership 101

This unit covers the basics or responsible pet ownership. Attendees will be familiarized with the costs, commitments and responsibilities of pet ownership and will be provided with information on general pet health. They will also be provided with an overview of Maui County’s animal regulations and laws and informed of the pet owner counseling services provided at Maui Humane Society and low-cost spay/neuter program.

Deconstructing the Myths and Misconceptions of Open-Admission Shelters

This unit is intended to function as an informational platform to dispel common myths and misconceptions about Maui Humane Society, open-admission shelters, the definition of ‘no-kill’, and the role of euthanasia in humane treatment. We will provide the group with facts and figures associated with our shelter, explain our role as Maui’s only open-admission shelter and describe how our methodology supports our mission to treat Maui’s animals with the compassion and dignity they deserve.

How to Keep Your Pet’s Best Interest in Mind: Pet Training and Solutions

This unit is designed to encourage pet owners to keep the best interest of their pets in mind when considering the surrender of their pet. It functions as a reminder to the public that MHS offers guidance, counseling and assistance with various pet ownership issues. Each group member will be provided with information on pet training and a comprehensive overview of what to do when the going gets tough and doing ‘what’s best for your pet’ becomes unclear.

The Feral Cat Issue: Real Problem, Real Solutions

This unit provides an overview of what defines a ‘feral cat’, and why their overpopulation presents a threat to Maui’s ecosystem and the health of our community and pets. We discuss various factors that contribute to, hinder or alleviate Maui’s ‘feral cat issue’ and provide information about feral cat euthanasia, Maui’s Feline Foundation, managed feral cat colonies, feral/domestic cat dynamics and information about our SNARP/SNIP program.
Shelter Tours

Maui Humane Society’s animal shelter is open to the public from 11am to 4pm. Within these hours, educators and group leaders can request a guided group tour of the shelter for any age group. A Maui Humane Society representative will introduce the group to our mascot Freddie the tortoise, and give them a tour of our Cat Ohana, Critter Corner and Dog Kennels while providing information about animal welfare, sheltering and the history of our agency along the way.

Shelter tours offer a hands-on approach to humane education and allow students to experience the animal shelter world firsthand. Groups will have the opportunity to socialize with shelter pets, and educators have the option of adding a community service element or educational presentation to their group’s shelter experience.

Booking a Shelter Tour

To book a shelter tour, educators must first submit a Shelter Tour Request Form. Because of space restrictions, tour groups are limited to a maximum of 12 students and 2 chaperones per tour (larger groups may be split into smaller units/time-blocked). Groups of students under age 7 must be accompanied by one chaperone per 6 students. Group shelter tours must be booked at least one week in advance of the proposed date. If your group will be adding a community service element or educational presentation to their shelter experience, this must be noted on the request form and submitted a minimum of two weeks from the proposed date. The educator must also submit completed Parent Authorization Forms for each child to the tour guide prior to the start of the tour. We prefer for safety reasons that each student must wear close-toed shoes and pants and be made aware of our Shelter Tour Guidelines prior to arrival at the shelter.

Shelter Tour Guidelines

We highly suggest that educators share the shelter tour guidelines on the following page with their group prior to arriving at the shelter. These guidelines apply to all ages, but it is particularly important to share with our younger students.
Shelter Tour Guidelines

“Slow & Low” is our shelter motto.
Please: Use slow movements and quiet voices.
No Running
Be quiet and respectful of the animals, guests, and staff.

Please keep hands to your side or in your pockets.
Please do not put your hands inside the kennels or through the fencing.

Please use hand sanitizer before and after visiting any shelter animal.
We want to keep all of our animals healthy.
Guests can pass germs from pet to pet if they do not wash their hands (or sanitize) between visits.

Always stay with the group and behind the tour guide.
Please listen to staff and volunteer direction. We want to keep all guests and animals safe.

Please be kind & gentle to all of our beloved shelter animals.
Please do not handle any animals without permission and guidance from a staff member or volunteer.
**Educational Programs Offered by Maui Humane Society**

In addition to our Educational Presentations and Shelter Tours, Maui Humane Society also offers a spectrum of Educational Programs that are designed to allow students of all ages an opportunity to actively join fellow animal lovers in the effort to create a better world for all living things. We ask you as an educator to help us increase awareness of these programs by sharing these opportunities with your students and encouraging them to participate.

**Animal Camp (grades 2 to 5)**

Animal Camp is a humane education program that runs in week-long sessions in alignment with the Hawaii Department of Education school breaks. Every day is filled with games, crafts, activities, guest speakers and time with the animals as students learn about kindness, care, compassion and respect through hands-on learning and creative expression.

Animal Camp is offered for six weeks during summer break, one week for both fall and spring breaks and two weeks during winter break. Camp hours are Monday through Friday from 8am to 2pm. Tuition is currently set at $145 per week.

Registration forms for the next Animal Camp will be included in this Humane Education Kit. For information about seasonal camp dates and themes and answers to Animal Camp FAQs, please visit our website or contact our Education and Outreach Coordinator.
Junior Animal Advocates of Maui (JAAM) Club (grades 6 to 9)

Maui Humane Society’s Junior Animal Advocates of Maui (JAAM) Club is open to students grades 6 to 9. Club members meet once a month on Saturdays during the school year to meet shelter staff, learn about animal-related community issues, socialize with our shelter pets and come up with creative ways to improve the quality of life for Maui’s pets. Club membership is only $35/semester, $60/year or $10/month and includes a personalized membership kit.

A printable registration form for JAAM Club is included in this kit. For more information about JAAM Club and meeting date and time information, please visit our website or contact our Education and Outreach Coordinator.
Junior Animal Advocates of Maui (JAAM) Mentorship Program (grades 6 to 12)

The JAAM Mentorship program is designed for young people grades 6-12 who would like to complete specific projects that require mentorship or guidance from a representative of Maui Humane Society. Examples of students who would join the JAAM Mentorship Program include:

- Those who need to complete a Senior Project in order to graduate
- Boy Scouts or members of a similar youth organization that need to complete a community service project
- Anybody in this age group who has a great idea for a community service/ advocacy project and would like assistance from the Maui Humane Society in realizing that project

JAAM Mentorship Program students are pro-active, independent and act on their own initiative. Our students already have reasonably clear intentions would like Maui Humane Society to function as a resource to help them meet their project goals.

If accepted into the program, Maui Humane Society will provide students with a JAAM Mentor who will work with them personally to:

- Provide them with information and resources
- Help them to define a course of action to meet their goal
- Meet with them as needed through the completion of their project
- Collaborate with the student’s counselor or educator as necessary to clarify project parameters
- Act as your liaison to MHS staff should students require additional training or volunteer hours, and/or if the student project requires their assistance or accommodation (as with on-site volunteer projects)

Because our work with students in the JAAM Mentorship program is so intensive, we can only accept a very limited number of applicants. In order to be considered for JAAM Mentorship, each applicant must:

- Complete a JAAM Mentorship Application Form
- Provide copies of any and all material provided by instructors or counselors (if the project is assigned)
- Submit a project proposal (see the JAAM Mentorship Application Form for detailed instructions)

A printable JAAM Mentorship Application is included in this kit. You can share the printable guide on the following page with students interested in JAAM Mentorship program to help them prepare for the application process. A very large percentage of our Mentorship students are completing their senior projects with us, so educators please note when suggesting Maui Humane Society for your students’ senior projects that they must complete the JAAM Mentorship Application and be accepted into the program in order to complete their senior projects with our organization.
HELPFUL TIPS FOR STUDENTS PREPARING THEIR JAAM MENTORSHIP APPLICATION

GET TO KNOW YOUR TURF!

Before you apply, take some time to learn as much as you can about Maui Humane Society, open admission shelters and animal welfare in general. This will help you to determine whether MHS is a good fit for your project’s needs before you even apply!

Visit the Maui Humane Society website. Read our mission statement and familiarize yourself with the services we offer to your community.

Visit the HSUS website- www.hsus.org. This website is a great resource if you’re just trying to get a better understanding of what humane societies do on a national level. While we are a private non-profit and not officially affiliated with the Humane Society of the United States, this website offers tons of information and resources about efforts we support and animal welfare in general. If you’re not sure what topic you would like to focus on, check out their video section! It gives a great overview of general animal welfare issues.

Watch ‘The Power of Compassion’ by Erik Friedl on YouTube. This 20-minute documentary is a great introduction to what open-admission shelters like the Maui Humane Society do to protect, care for, and show compassion to our community’s pets.

Doing these three things before even applying to JAAM Mentorship or deciding on your project topic is highly recommended and will provide you with a firm foundation on which to begin working on your project.

APPLY IN ADVANCE!

If you are applying to JAAM Mentorship for a school project, please try to apply to our mentorship program as soon as you receive your assignment. The more notice you give us, the more likely we will be able to offer our mentorship program to you! You are more likely to be approved for JAAM Mentorship if you give us plenty of time to work with your before your topic is even due.

BE AMBITIOUS!

You have a great idea, but it sounds like a lot of work and you have no idea where to start. That’s okay! Every great effort starts with a great idea, and helping you figure out how to make it happen is what your mentors are here for. Our Mentorship program is designed to foster future leaders and animal advocates in our community. Be brave- be willing to accept challenges, grow, and work outside of your comfort zone. Think of JAAM Mentorship as an opportunity to show yourself and your community what you are capable of, all while making an effort to improve the quality of life for the pets in your community!
Get Students Involved

We’ve included two packets in this Humane Education Kit that will help you to encourage your students to actively participate in supporting animal welfare through action. Our Animal Welfare General Information packet provides a general overview of the most pronounced animal welfare issues in our community, while our What You Can Do To Help packet offers realistic ways that students can work together to protect and support Maui’s pets. For support in developing a fundraising project, please contact our Education and Outreach Coordinator.

Contact Us

Do you have questions, comments or suggestions for our Education and Outreach programs? Please don’t hesitate to contact our Education and Outreach Coordinator.

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