

Living/Learning Center Programs
The University of Vermont

<http://www.uvm.edu/llcenter/>



OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM

Animalia is one of the oldest Living and Learning programs at the University of Vermont. A main goal of Animalia's is to make sure that all individuals within the program not only enjoy the hands on experience with animals that we will provide but also take from their experiences and grow as people. Animalia is a program for people who have a passion for animals, big and small; people who want opportunities to interact closely with animals while at school.

We strive to gain consistent hands on experience with animals as well as developing a comfortable learning environment with a friendly atmosphere. We hope our members will gain a broader knowledge of the animal kingdom through our designated Learning Objectives. This coming year we have high hopes of establishing a tighter relationship with the local Humane Society, volunteering at shelters and tabling to raise more for the care and awareness of animals.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE 1

Being a Living and Learning program, Animalia is dedicated to continual learning and growth of the individual. Our hope is to ensure that our members never stop learning new and interesting information revolving around animals, their welfare, upbringing, and any other interesting pieces of information that our members may be interested in gaining more knowledge about. (*continuous*)

ACTION STEPS

1. Student Presentations: Members will be responsible for reading at least one article a month revolving around animals. After reading the article they will need to share the three most important or interesting facts that they learned from the

- article to the rest of Animalia at one of our meetings. These articles may be found in a magazine that we purchase for the program, or on the internet.
2. On a biweekly or tri-weekly basis, we will watch an episode of the series Planet Earth, which will greatly expand our knowledge of animals and how they interact with the diverse climate areas of the world. Each member will be responsible for watching these weekly episodes to take place at a time that is convenient for everyone. This will encourage group interaction and discussion, which we feel is important to development of bonds within our program.
 3. Members will be responsible for attending every program meeting and getting to know each member. We think that it is very important that every member within the program has a close bond with one another. As well as attending our program meetings, they will be responsible for coming to bonding activities within the program.



LEARNING OBJECTIVE 2

Members will acquire knowledge of animals through hands on experience and first hand observation throughout the year.

ACTION STEPS

1. Every two weeks 5 group members will be responsible for volunteering a minimum of 1 hour each. Those members will be designated during meetings. The opportunity for volunteering will be available every weekend, and each member is responsible for volunteering at least once a month. A sheet will be given to each member to be signed by an authority at the organization.
2. Animalia as a program will work to establish a relationship with Fizgig and Chione and their owners through walking the dogs several times a week. Members will walk the dogs whenever their schedules allow, and this will be determined at weekly meetings. This will allow members of the program to get the animal interaction that they really desire.
3. Once a month, as a program, we will take advantage of the UVM farm. This presents an opportunity to learn further about domesticated animals that most people rarely get to interact with. Some of our members this year, and some people that are thinking of joining the program, have horses or are going to have horses at the UVM farm. They would be willing to let the program visit and/or allow people to ride them. This will also offer the members who do work with the farm a chance to educate other members with non-animal related majors.
4. Once or twice during the year, we would like to take a program wide field trip. These could be to the Equine Affair which we attended this past year, to an Agricultural Fair like the one in Tunbridge every fall, or to Pond Hill

Ranch in Castleton which offers horseback riding lessons for beginners. We are also considering a trip to The Biodome in Montreal, and we are open to suggestions from our members as the year progresses. These fieldtrips will expand our knowledge of animals through first hand experience, and will also serve as bonding activities between our program members.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE 3

As a representative of Animal interest on the UVM campus, the program will provide information and garner support for animal causes. This will involve educating ourselves on these topics so as to educate others. Topics such as endangerment, population control, vaccination, animals rights and animal safety.

ACTION STEPS

1. Taking advantage of the Davis center to raise awareness through tabling. Not only will this provide information to the public, it will further the program's interaction and relationship with the campus.
2. Publicizing the Humane Society's hours through flyers and posters so as to make other animal lovers of UVM aware of how they can help. This will hopefully aid the Humane Society, and of course the animals.
3. As a program, or hopefully with the aid of another program, we will make dog biscuits for the humane society twice a semester.



COMMUNITY SERVICE

We hope to get involved with the local Humane Society; some members volunteering at the shelter on a weekly basis. Also, we plan to look into reserving space in the Davis Center where we could table to raise money for animals in need. As Program Directors, we are very open to any other suggestions for our members and anyone else that may have ideas. Also, we would be interested in hosting a movie night in the Living/Learning Fireplace lounge that concentrated on the importance of protecting animals as well as perhaps a guest speaker.



PLANNING TIMELINE

Fall Semester 2009

<p>PRE-SEMESTER <i>PDs arrive early: Aug 24-25</i> <i>Orientation & Training: Aug 25-28</i> <i>Classes Begin: Monday, August 31, 2009</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decorate suites Establish calendar Set up training date at Humaine Society 	<p>OCTOBER 26-NOVEMBER 1 <i>Halloween: Friday, October 31</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Halloween activity Program Meeting Humane Society
<p>AUGUST 31- SEPTEMBER 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introductory meeting (members get to know one another) Establish suite/program guidelines and set up calendar Program wide bonding activity 	<p>NOVEMBER 2-8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program meeting-lecture to attend? New Article Assignments Humane Society Planet Earth
<p>SEPTEMBER 8-13 <i>Labor Day: Monday, September 7</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program meeting-collect numbers, email addresses and schedules from members Humane Society Training begins? Tunbridge Fair? 	<p>NOVEMBER 9-15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program meeting-plan Thanksgiving celebration Article discussion Humane Society
<p>SEPTEMBER 14-20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Humane Society Planet Earth with program Program meeting 	<p>NOVEMBER 16-22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program meeting Article discussion Humane Society Bonding Activity before break
<p>SEPTEMBER 21-27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program meeting Humane Society Start Dog walking 	<p>NOVEMBER 23-29 <i>Thanksgiving Recess: November 23-27</i></p>
<p>SEPTEMBER 28- OCTOBER 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program meeting-begin discussing articles that members have read Humane Society 	<p>NOVEMBER 30- DECEMBER 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture series speaker? Program meeting-discuss secret Santa Humane Society
<p>OCTOBER 5-11</p>	<p>DECEMBER 7-13</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Meeting • More article discussion • Humane Society • Dog Walking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program meeting-Secret Santa • Evaluate success of the semester
<p>OCTOBER 12-18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planet Earth • Program Meeting • Humane Society • Castleton Fieldtrip? 	<p>END-OF-SEMESTER</p> <p><i>Classes End: Thursday, December 10</i></p> <p><i>Reading Days: December 12-13, 16</i></p> <p><i>Exam Days: 11, 14-15, 17-18</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free period for studying
<p>OCTOBER 19-25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UVM Farm? • Program meeting-discuss Halloween activities (doggie goodie bags?) • Humane Society 	

Spring Semester 2010

<p>PRE-SEMESTER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Scheduling • Set up dog-walking/ Humane society times 	<p>MARCH 15-21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Meeting- discuss UVM farm trip? • Article Discussion • Humane Society
<p>JANUARY 19-24</p> <p><i>Martin Luther King Holiday: Monday, January 18</i></p> <p>Classes Begin; Tuesday, January 19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Meeting-Humane Society • New Article Assignments 	<p>MARCH 22-28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Meeting • Planet Earth • UVM Farm
<p>JANUARY 25-JANUARY 31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Meeting-flyers/posters to raise humane society awareness • Article Discussion • Humane Society 	<p>MARCH 29-APRIL 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Meeting- • Humane Society • New Article Assignments
<p>FEBRUARY 1-7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Meeting-Discuss Valentine's Day Party/Activity • New Article Assignments • Humane Society 	<p>APRIL 5-11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Meeting- discuss possible trip? • Humane Society • Planet Earth

<p>FEBRUARY 8-14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valentine’s Day Activity/Party • Program Meeting • Planet Earth • Humane Society 	<p>APRIL 12-18</p> <p><i>Honors day: Friday, April 16</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Meeting • Humane Society • Article Discussion
<p>FEBRUARY 15-21</p> <p><i>Presidents Day: Monday, February 15</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Meeting- Lecture Series? • Dog Treats • Humane Society • Article Discussion 	<p>APRIL 19-25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Meeting –plan end of year celebration/trip • Article Discussion • Humane Society-wrapping up volunteering before summer.
<p>FEBRUARY 22- FEBRUARY 28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Meeting • Article Discussion • Tabling at Davis Society • Humane Society 	<p>APRIL 26-MAY 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Meeting • Trip? • End of Year Celebration
<p>MARCH 1-7</p> <p><i>Town Meeting Day: Tuesday, March 2</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Meeting- Discuss details of leaving for Spring Break, what will occur when we return. • New Article Assignments • Humane Society 	<p>MAY 3-9</p> <p><i>Classes End: Wednesday, May 5</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Meeting – Deal with end of year issues- departure, room requirements
<p>MARCH 8-14</p> <p><i>Spring Recess: March 8-12</i></p>	<p>END-OF-SEMESTER</p> <p><i>Reading Days: May 6, 8-9, 12</i></p> <p><i>Exam Days: May 7, 10-11, 13-14</i></p> <p><i>Commencement: Sunday, May 23</i></p>

PLANS FOR INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER L/L PROGRAMS

There is much collaboration within programs that Animalia would be interested in participating in or hosting. It would be a great experience for members of Animalia to enjoy the wilderness that surrounds UVM and we think that doing a combine hike with The Wilderness and Naturalist Skills group would provide many great opportunities for both programs. Also, a joint field trip with the Farms/ 2+2 Dairy Farm Management program would be most cost effective and would help broaden members’ perspectives.

Several times during the year, we are interested in baking cookies, as well as buying some cookies, for dogs and local shelters. We would love to enlist the help from the Casa Italiana (or another program that may focus on cooking) members who might have more knowledge on baking than Animalia members. Another idea for a community



service idea for the Living/Learning community would be to dual host a relaxation day with the Mind, Body and Soul program (or other program focused on relaxation techniques). Animalia could look into finding local therapy dogs and Mind, Body, and Soul could look into relaxation techniques or massages.