

Animal Matters



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IN THE NEWS...

BBC to boycott Crufts

Broadcast in August last year, the BBC documentary *Pedigree Dogs Exposed* revealed that Kennel Club breeding standards have led to serious health and welfare problems in pedigree dogs.

As a result, the BBC has now confirmed that it will not be televising Crufts this March.



British pig farming scandal

In January, an Animal Aid investigation exposed the terrible welfare standards on a number of leading British pig farms.

The investigation undermined claims by both Jamie Oliver (in Channel 4's *The Great British Food Fight*) and the British pig industry (in their recent advertising campaign) that consumers should buy 'higher welfare' British pig produce in preference to low-welfare European meat.

In February, the Advertising Standards Authority ruled that pig industry adverts maintaining that British pigs have 'very high welfare standards' are misleading and must be withdrawn.

Meat-free Month 2009

March sees the launch of Animal Aid's Meat-free Month. Throughout the month, Animal Aid will focus on its campaigns to promote the benefits of a meat-free diet. Increasing numbers of people are choosing to give up eating flesh altogether – or at least to eat less meat – for a number of different reasons:

Animal welfare 1,000 million animals are reared and killed for food every year in the UK. Most are factory-farmed.

Personal health Vegetarians have reduced risk of a number of chronic diseases, including obesity, coronary artery disease, hypertension, type 2 diabetes and prostate and colon cancer.

Environment and food resource According to the UN report *Livestock's Long Shadow*, animal farming is responsible for 18% of all greenhouse gas emissions.

Almost half the world's grain harvest is fed to farmed animals. Most of the food value is wasted in their digestive systems on cell replacement. Growing crops for direct human consumption can produce far greater quantities of food.

Animal Aid resources on vegetarianism



Healthy Eating Poster Ideal for food technology, this A2-sized poster illustrates four healthy and easy-to-cook meals. Up to three posters can be ordered free of charge.

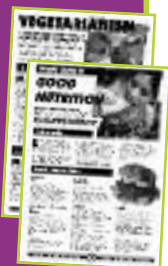


Young Veggies Twenty-page booklet packed with information on the advantages of vegetarianism, plus recipes and nutrition advice. Up to 30 copies available free.



Factsheets A4 double-sided factsheets on vegetarianism and vegetarian nutrition. Easy to photocopy. Single copies available free. Alternatively, download pdfs from our website.

Eat This! This DVD and student activities booklet is ideal for KS4 English, Citizenship and Food Technology classes. Each pack contains 11 lesson plans with worksheets. The 20-minute *Eat This!* film is great for stimulating discussion and debate.



Animal Writes Suitable for KS3 English. This book contains nine lessons on a range of issues, several of them examining how animals are reared for food. An additional information sheet including the new Framework Objectives is now available (see overleaf).



To order resources, tel: 01732 364546 ext 221 or email education@animalaid.co.uk

Resources

Humane education goes global

IN AWE (International Animal Welfare Fund) is a programme initiated by The World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA). It aims to get animal welfare onto the school curriculum for students aged 5-16 in all areas of the world. **To find out more, visit www.animal-education.org.** The site also features an online catalogue of educational resources developed by different animal welfare organisations.



Animal Writes

A sheet setting out the new Framework Objectives for Animal Aid's Animal Writes English resource is now available. **See our website to download, or order from mark@animalaid.co.uk.** The complete Animal Writes pack, including resource book, DVD and poetry poster, is available free of charge.

The Animal Rights Debate

The latest publication in the **Issues** series features chapters on animal welfare, animal experiments and bloodsports. Suitable for GCSE and A-level, this book is packed with up-to-date information from a wide range of sources.



Vegetarians and vegans

This is a great new addition to the **Issues Today** series, which is suitable for Key Stage 3 students. It includes information and activities.



For more information on the both the *Issues* books, visit www.independence.co.uk

Free school speaker service

Animal Aid has a network of school speakers who can give presentations on a wide range of topics. These include animal rights, animal experiments, factory farming and vegetarianism. Many speakers can also give cookery demonstrations. **For more information visit www.animalaid.org.uk/education**



New youth website

Animal Aid has launched an exciting new youth section on its website, providing a wealth of information on animal issues.

The Home Page features an **Animals Gallery** where visitors can post images of their companion

animal(s) and a **Young Activists** section featuring the latest exploits of some of our young campaigners.

The **Issues** pages are an ideal resource for student project work, with sections on animal rights, animal farming, animal experiments, animals in sport, pets, fur and animals in captivity.

The **Go Veggie** pages include sections on why people choose to go vegetarian or vegan, plus veggie nutrition and recipes.

The **Get Active** pages are packed with ideas and advice on how young people can campaign for animals.



Lesson Ideas

Citizenship KS4

The new Animal Aid youth site has a **Letter Writing/Emailing** section with ideas and guidance for protest letters or emails.

Set students the task of using the **Issues** section on the website to identify and research an issue that they feel strongly about. Using the **Letter Writing/Emailing** section, ask them to compose their protest letter or email. Go to: **www.animalaid.org.uk/youth -> Get Active -> Activists Guide -> Letter Writing/Emailing.** Alternatively, search for **Letter Writing/Emailing** on the Animal Aid youth site.

Food Technology KS3

Consumers are increasingly becoming concerned about ways in which animals are reared for food. However, the labelling of foods can be confusing. Set students the task of producing a pocket guide for shoppers. Ask them to investigate the terms 'free-range', 'organic', 'Freedom Food', 'intensively farmed', 'battery eggs' and 'barn eggs', and to write clear and concise definitions for each.

Food Technology/IT/Maths Homework Task

Ask students to use the internet to discover how many people in the UK no longer eat meat or fish. See our website for the answer.



Contact details

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