

Animal Matters



IN THE NEWS...

Abattoir cruelty exposed

In August last year, Animal Aid published film that was secretly shot inside three randomly chosen abattoirs, exposing scenes of extreme cruelty. These included animals being kicked, and pigs and sheep going to the knife without adequate stunning. Three months later, we revealed similar breaches of animal welfare laws inside a slaughterhouse approved to process organic meat by the Soil Association.

As a result of our evidence, investigations are currently being carried out with a view to possible prosecutions.

Animal Aid is also seeking the introduction of CCTV in all British abattoirs to monitor the slaughtering process – an objective supported by the RSPCA, the Soil Association and Compassion in World Farming. A breakthrough came this month, when the Food Standards Agency Chief Executive, Tim Smith, announced his backing for our campaign.

Swiss vote against animal advocates

Voters in Switzerland have rejected a proposal to introduce the world's first system of state-funded lawyers to represent animals in court.

Despite this defeat, Switzerland has some of the strongest animal protection legislation in the world. Pigs, budgies, goldfish and other social animals cannot be kept alone; horses and cows must have regular exercise outside – both in summer and winter; and dog owners have to take training courses to learn how to care for their pets.

Meat-Free Monday

New York's public schools are being encouraged to adopt the Meat-Free Monday initiative to promote healthier eating amongst young people, and to reduce the city's carbon footprint.

Officials at the New York City Department of Education have stated that they are considering a proposal put forward by Manhattan borough president, Scott Stringer.

In the UK, Jesus College, Oxford has become the first higher educational establishment to support the campaign. All meals served in the college canteen on Mondays are to be vegetarian.



RESOURCES: To view Animal Aid's stylish new Meat-Free Monday mini-movie, entitled *What a Difference a Day Makes*, see our dedicated website www.meat-free-monday.com



Youth art and poetry competition

Following the success of Animal Aid's first nationwide Youth Art and Poetry Competition in 2008, we have decided to repeat the event.

The theme is the same as last time – factory farming. We are inviting students between 11 and 18 to submit either a piece of art (drawing, painting, computer graphic, model or sculpture) or a poem. The aim is to encourage thought and discussion about how the food on their plates is produced.

The competition is divided into three age categories: 11-13, 14-16 and 17-18. All entries should be clearly marked on the back with the student's name, age and school address. They should be sent to the Animal Aid office by the **closing date of May 6th 2010**. The best entries will be displayed at a prize-winning event in London during the summer.

RESOURCES: For more details, see our website or contact the Education Department. Students seeking background information can obtain posters, leaflets and factsheets on factory farming, FREE from Animal Aid. Email education@animalaid.co.uk. Alternatively, go to our website: www.animalaid.org.uk/education

FREE RESOURCES ON VEGETARIANISM

New! Food Nutrition Wall Chart

Have your students ever wondered how vegetarians get their protein or vegans obtain their calcium?



They can easily find out from Animal Aid's new *Veggie Guide to Good Nutrition* wall chart. This informative and eye-catching poster lists the best vegetarian food sources for all the main nutrients. Measuring 99cm x 40cm, it is an ideal size for displaying on the food technology classroom wall or library notice board. It is also laminated, so it is easy to keep clean.

TO ORDER: For up to three FREE wallcharts, contact our Education Department.

Healthy Eating Poster



Our A2 size poster illustrates four healthy and easy-to-cook meals. The recipes are also featured in the *Young Veggies* booklet (see below).

TO ORDER: For up to three FREE posters, contact our Education Department.



Young Veggies

This A5 student information booklet describes the advantages of a meat-free diet, and how to cater for vegetarians, and gives details about vegetarian nutrition. It also includes five easy-to-cook healthy veggie recipes.

TO ORDER: Single copies or class sets of up to 30 are available FREE from our Education Department.



Factsheets

Our double-sided black and white Factsheets on *Vegetarianism* and *Good Nutrition* can be easily photocopied. The latter is an ideal companion to the nutrition wall chart described above.

TO ORDER: Download from our website or order copies from our Education Department.

Bookmarks

Go Veggie Bookmarks. **TO ORDER:** Up to 30 bookmarks per school are available FREE from our Education Department.



Eat This! DVD

The *Eat This!* film looks at where the food on our plate comes from. Suitable for KS4, this 20-minute production is ideal for promoting discussion and debate. An accompanying student activity booklet containing worksheets and lesson plans for English and Citizenship is also available.

TO ORDER: DVD and student activity booklet available FREE from our Education Department.



Animal Writes leaflets now available

The leaflets (*It's a Crying Shame* and *Game Shooting is Fowl Play!*) for lessons 8 and 9 (Creature Campaigns) of our *Animal Writes* programme have now been reprinted and are available FREE of charge.



RESOURCES: Please contact us for class sets. Visit the Education Resources section of our website to download or order the *Animal Writes* student activities booklet. Alternatively, contact the Animal Aid office for a free copy.

Lesson Ideas

Art KS3/4 Ask your class to produce a piece of art on the theme of factory farming for Animal Aid's art competition*. To help stimulate thought, invite a speaker from Animal Aid to give a talk. Alternatively, view the *Eat This!* DVD (KS4), available from Animal Aid, or the *Animals and Us* DVD (KS3), obtainable from Compassion in World Farming (ciwf.org.uk). Follow up with a discussion about how the artwork might be used in an advertising campaign to encourage consumers to think about the methods used to produce their food.

English KS3/4 Ask your class to write a poem on the theme of factory farming for Animal Aid's poetry competition*. Use our *Animal Writes* poetry poster as stimulus and/or invite a speaker from Animal Aid to give a talk on factory farming. Alternatively, view the *Eat This!* DVD (KS4) or the *Animals and Us* DVD (KS3).

Food technology KS3/4 Invite a representative from Animal Aid to give a cookery demonstration. The lesson could include a cooking demonstration plus information on meat-free diets, a DVD on vegetarianism, discussion of the benefits of a vegetarian diet, a presentation on what to eat if you don't eat meat (including alternative protein sources), and the rationale behind the Meat-Free Monday initiative. Sessions could also feature a display of veggie food packaging and food sampling. **Phone 01732 364546 ext 234 or email schootalks@animalaid.co.uk to arrange.**

*See front page for competition details.

Contact Animal Aid Education Department

The Old Chapel, Bradford Street, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1AW

To view/download/order resources or to book a school speaker see the education website: www.animalaid.org.uk/education
Tel: 01732 364546 ext 221 (for orders), ext 234 (for talks) or ext 230 (for other enquiries) Email: education@animalaid.co.uk