

Miniworld Adventures Animal Shelter Reading Program-How Animal Shelters Can Participate

Thank you for wanting to implement an animal shelter reading program in your local community.

At Spartacus Media Enterprises® we know that there are many pets looking for their fur-ever homes. Spartacus is the publisher of a teen authored fictional work that focuses on balancing the needs of animals and humans.

Spartacus knows spending time in an animal shelter is a dedicated, passionate position, most people in shelters are volunteering their time to better the lives of animals. While these animals are given excellent care, it is impossible for each animal to receive individualized attention constantly. We would like to be able to help you facilitate a program that would allow children to come in to your shelter to spend quality time with your animals reading to them. This kind of activity helps the animals mental health, opens up the potential for adoptions by those families while providing students with more empathy for animals, a love for volunteering, as well as increased interest in and comprehension of what they read. This program also gives your shelter the ability to post great photos on your social media and market your reading program as a win/win for animals and children. In doing this kind of program with your local community you will be assisting a child that may not feel comfortable reading aloud to improve their reading skills and many respected studies indicate that interest, engagement and comprehension of reading is increased when a child reads to an animal.(See links at bottom of this document for more on this)

Although Miniworld Adventures cannot participate in facilitating the set up or management of such a program, we are happy to provide you with a fictional adventure book written by four teen girls that are from New England. The book entitled "The Dolphin Rescue" has themes related to children feeling empowered to help animals have better lives so would be a great book choice for your shelter to use as it will reinforce the same values and message your shelter undoubtedly is trying to model.

Informational Links:

<https://www.readbrightly.com/the-many-benefits-of-reading-with-animals/>

<https://www.tomsomaine.com/good-matters/helping-hands/reading-to-animals-at-a-shelter-helps-kids-and-critters-alike>

<http://readingtodogs.weebly.com/research.html>

How to set up the program

Here is an easy to step by step guide on how to get your own program started in your own community:

Animal Shelters:

Step 1: Contact local schools Language Arts Department head or community service office; child based organizations (such as the boys and girls clubs) or post the idea on your social media for parents and children to see. Express your desire to partner with them to have children come in and spend time reading to your animal friends, sharing the benefits to your shelter as well as to the child. *See suggested social media/email copy below

Step 2: Advertise to the local community via social media, local newspapers, or flyers around the town explaining the program. Explain you are partnering with Miniworld Adventures and want to improve children's reading skills while benefiting your animal residents.

Step 3: Getting parents involved is vital as they will be responsible for taking their child to your shelter. If release forms are necessary or instructions are needed to explain to the parents about your regulations for animal child interaction that can be sent out by your shelter in an email or mailing prior to the child arriving.

Step 4: Once you set up a schedule for the children to visit and have obtained permission from parents, please contact Spartacus Media Enterprises(the publisher)/Miniworld (Book author organization) at www.miniworld.net contact us, or www.spartacusmediaenterprises.com and we will mail your shelter a copy of our book *The Dolphin Rescue*, for your students to share with the animals. We will also send you an email of material with the background on the teen authors, summary of the book, some information on press they have received, as well as a video link to the authors speaking about the value of the book to reluctant readers.

Step 5: Please take and share photos and stories of this wonderful adventure with our social media sites by tagging, linking, etc. Our Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/theminiworldadventures>, our Instagram is [miniworld_insta](https://www.instagram.com/miniworld_insta) our website is www.miniworld.net. We love to see children reading to their animal friends and making a difference in their community. Please repost our postings on your social media sites.

Warmly,
Your friends at Miniworld Adventures