

BARNYARD BUDDIES

A Free Virtual Humane Education Program

For Pre-K–Grade 5 Classrooms and Learning Groups

A project of VINE Sanctuary

Made possible with support from Dr. Bronner's Magic Soap



WHAT IS BARNYARD BUDDIES

Barnyard Buddies pairs each participating classroom or with a rescued animal living at VINE Sanctuary.

From September through May, students get to know their Buddy through photographs, videos, stories, and age-appropriate lessons exploring empathy, animals, community, and the natural world.



HOW IT WORKS:

One Buddy. Nine Months. A New Topic Every Month.



Each classroom or homeschool group is paired with a sanctuary Buddy.



The program runs from September through May.



Every month introduces a different humane education topic.



Students follow their Buddy's life through photographs, videos, and stories.



Lessons build upon the relationship students develop with their Buddy throughout the year.

MONTHLY MATERIALS

Everything Educators Need, Delivered Monthly

Each month, educators receive:

- ✓ A ready-to-use lesson plan
- ✓ Supplemental activities and materials
- ✓ A student booklet
- ✓ A teacher resource booklet with background information and additional resources
- ✓ A new Buddy update with photographs and videos from the sanctuary



All materials are digital, free, and designed to fit easily into the school day.

WHY HUMANE EDUCATION?

Learning to Care, Question, and Connect

Humane education helps students practice:

- ✓ Empathy and perspective-taking
- ✓ Respect for differences
- ✓ Critical and ethical thinking
- ✓ Responsible decision-making
- ✓ Care for animals, communities, and ecosystems



CURRICULUM ALIGNMENT

Designed to Support the Learning Already Happening



Kindergarten–Grade 5 lessons align with Common Core ELA standards in reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language, with cross-curricular connections to science and social studies.

Pre-K materials are developmentally appropriate and grounded in story, conversation, observation, and creative exploration.

Materials are designed using UDL principles and ADA accessibility standards, with SEL skills—including empathy, relationship-building, and ethical decision-making—integrated throughout.

THE SANCTUARY COMES TO THE CLASSROOM



At the end of the program, students are invited to visit VINE Sanctuary virtually. They can meet sanctuary residents, ask questions, and see where their Buddy lives.

It brings the year full circle: the animal they have been learning about is no longer an idea or an example, but someone they know.

INVITATION

Bring Barnyard Buddies to Your Students

Free. Virtual. September–May.

Open to Pre-K–Grade 5 classrooms,
libraries, and homeschool groups.

Learn more or enroll:

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