



www.bekindbelize.org
BeKindBelize@gmail.com
501-624-8251

Be Kind Belize Humane Education Programme Fact Sheet

What is Humane Education?

Our simple definition is that humane education is based on the concept that all life is precious and is practiced by teaching young people the value and importance of treating other living creatures with kindness.

A more complex definition provided by the Humane Education Institute is that *humane education provides accurate information about the issues of our time so that people have the information they need to understand the consequences of their decisions. It fosters curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking, so that people can evaluate information and solve problems. It instills reverence, respect, and responsibility, so that people have the motivation to face challenges and to act with integrity and it offers positive choices that benefit oneself, other people, the animals, and the Earth, so that people are empowered to create a more humane world.*

It has been well established that children that learn to be kind to other living creatures are also kinder to people, are better at communicating and are more likely to become helpful and caring members of the community as adults. Humane education also helps children develop better interpersonal skills such as speaking and listening while improving their attitudes towards caring for others. Humane education promotes empathy and respect for all life.

Why Humane Education?

Numerous studies indicate that violence towards animals is related to violent behaviour towards people. Repeated studies in both adolescents and adults have noted that children who participate in or witness animal cruelty are more inclined to become involved in anti social behaviour including fire setting, sexual violence, domestic abuse and murder.

By engendering reverence, respect and responsibility in children before they start developing concerning patterns of behaviour, humane education acts like a moral vaccination. It gives children the tools they need to make decisions about their own behaviour and helps them to understand the consequences of those decisions.

How does Humane Education fit in with formal education?

Humane education lessons can be introduced to compliment the needs of any national curriculum and enhance studies in math, science, social studies, art and health. Be Kind Belize resources can be adapted as needed to fit in with the values of different schools.

Why would a Be Kind Belize programme help our school?

All Be Kind Belize resources are free of charge. By utilising Be Kind Belize resources in your school, you will enable the students to broaden their understanding of the importance of kindness and better comprehend the consequences of their actions as part of fun, engaging and interactive activities.

Teaching children through and about animals is a sound educational tool and provides an exciting context through which children are enthused to learn and apply developing skills and understanding.

How can I get Be Kind Belize resources for our school?

All Be Kind Belize resources are downloadable, for free, from our website.
www.bekindbelize.org

How do we get more information about be Kind Belize?

Please contact Be Kind Belize either by phoning 501-624-8251 or by email at BeKindBelize@gmail.com.