

Rabies Awareness & Prevention Poster Contest

Instructions for Teachers

1. Thank you for involving your students in our poster contest! Students should design the posters to emphasize ways to prevent rabies exposures and infections. Please take a little time to discuss the information provided in the student handout. Stress the importance of rabies vaccinations for dogs, cats, and ferrets (and livestock in frequent contact with people). Remind your students not to touch wild or unfamiliar domestic animals.
2. Schools are the #1 location for exposure to rabid bats in Texas. Please remind students that bats are an important part of our ecosystem and that most bats are not rabid. However, the bats students are most likely to come into contact with have a fairly high probability of being infected with rabies. Remind students that they need to tell an adult immediately any time they see a bat out of its natural habitat (on the ground, flying around the house, etc).
3. More information on rabies can be found at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention "Just for Kids" rabies webpage: www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/kidsrabies and the Texas Department of State Health Services rabies webpage: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/rabies/>. For additional information about bats, visit the Bat Conservation International webpage: <http://www.batcon.org/>.
4. Texas residents in kindergarten through 8th grade are eligible to participate.
5. **Posters must be on unlined paper and be at least 8½" by 11" and may not exceed 11" by 17". Poster content and drawings must be original. Poster submissions should be eye-catching and informative, yet text should be minimal and easily readable.**
6. An entry *form (see below) must be affixed to the back of each poster.
7. Submit posters to Bonny Mayes, Texas Department of State Health Services, Zoonosis Control Branch, MC-1956, P.O. Box 149347, Austin, TX 78714-9347. **Posters must be received by April 8, 2011.**
8. Posters submitted from all over the state will be judged on or before April 29, 2011 – the winners' teachers will be notified via phone and/or email by the week of May 2, 2011.
9. There will be one prize for the top-ranking kindergarten poster; there will be a first, second, and third place prize for each age group (grades 1-2, 3-5 and 6-8). Prizes will be provided by the *Zach Jones Memorial Fund* – for more information visit: <http://www.zachjonesmemorial.org/>. **Prizes to be announced at a later date.**
10. The classroom of the winning (1st place) artist from grades 1-2, 3-5 and 6-8 will be treated to a pizza party (*provided by the Zach Jones Memorial Fund*). This is limited to 25 students.
11. The winning posters will be publicized on the DSHS website. All posters become the property of the Texas Department of State Health Services. Artwork from top-ranking posters may be used for future state sponsored educational materials.

***Please tape a completed copy of this entry form to the back of each poster.**

In addition, please write student's name and age on the back of each poster.

Student's Name: _____ Grade: _____

Teacher's Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

School Principal's Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

School Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

All entries must be received by the Texas Department of State Health Services, Zoonosis Control Branch,
MC-1956, P.O. Box 149347, Austin, TX 78714-9347 by **April 8, 2011.**