



## **Rabies Awareness & Prevention Poster Contest KINDERGARTEN – 12<sup>th</sup> GRADE**

### **Instructions for Adult Facilitator**

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Zoonosis Control Program's annual [Rabies Awareness and Prevention Poster Contest](#) is designed to educate youth about rabies, the importance of rabies vaccinations for their pets, respecting wildlife from a distance, and the need to notify adults if they think they may have been exposed to an animal with rabies. Texas youth in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade are eligible to participate.

This contest must be facilitated by an adult, such as a school nurse, teacher, youth group leader (e.g., FFA, Boy/Girl Scouts, church), after school program group leader, etc. We ask that the adult facilitator review the "Student Information & Instructions" sheet (different versions for K-8<sup>th</sup> and high school) and poster rules with students. There is also a fun "Rabies Activity Sheet" available for grades K-5!

Additional information about rabies can be found at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [webpage](#) and the DSHS [rabies webpage](#). For more information about rabies awareness, students can watch the short video [Protect People Protect Bats](#).

#### **Poster rules:**

- Posters must contain the word "Rabies." Posters that do not mention rabies will be disqualified.
- Hand drawn artwork should be on unlined paper measuring at least 8½ X 11; paper size should not exceed 11 X 17. If using 11 X 17 paper, artwork must be at least one inch from each edge.
- Poster content and drawings must be original. Students may use previous contest-winning artwork for inspiration but must refrain from copying or recreating artwork.
- Poster should be eye-catching and informative, yet text should be minimal and easily readable.
- An entry form must be affixed to the back of each hand drawn poster.
- K-5<sup>th</sup> grade posters must be hand drawn; grades 6-8<sup>th</sup> and high school posters may be digital (computer) or non-digital (traditional) hand drawn art. **Students are prohibited from using Artificial Intelligence (AI) art to create their poster.**

#### **Deadline:**

Posters will be accepted any time prior to, but no later than, the **April 4, 2025**, deadline!

**Hand drawn posters may be scanned and saved in PDF format and emailed to [The.Vet@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:The.Vet@dshs.texas.gov) OR must be delivered/mailed by the adult facilitator to the address below:**

Texas Department of State Health Services  
Attn: Rabies Poster Contest  
Zoonosis Control Branch, MC-1956  
PO Box 149347  
Austin, TX 78714-9347

**Digital artwork must be emailed by the adult facilitator:**

- Poster must be saved in PDF format.
- Submit the email to [The.Vet@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:The.Vet@dshs.texas.gov).
  - Subject line should read "rabies poster contest, student name."
  - Name the PDF file "student last name, student first name" (e.g., Smith, Joe).
  - Include in the body of the email:
    - Full name, grade, and age of student.
    - School or youth group name and location.
    - Adult facilitator name, email, and phone number.

**Prize details:**

- One kindergarten winner will receive several small gifts.
- There will be first, second, and third place winners from three categories for hand drawn art: 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> grade, 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade, and 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade. Prizes listed below:
  - Grades 1-2: 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Art Set; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Roblox gift card; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – \$50 Gift Card.
  - Grades 3-5: 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Fjällräven backpack; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – LEGO set OR Stanley Cup; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – \$50 Gift Card.
  - Grades 6-8: 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Wireless headphones; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – JBL portable speaker; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – \$50 Gift Card.
- There will be one winner for best digital art for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade. The winner will receive a \$100 gift card.
- There will be two winners for high school, one for best digital art and one for best hand drawn art. Each winner will receive a \$100 gift card.

**Contest sponsor:**

Prizes are funded by the [Zach Jones Memorial Fund](#).

**Stipulations:**

- All posters become the property of DSHS.
- Winning posters will be publicized on the DSHS website.
- Artwork from top-ranking posters may be used for future state sponsored educational materials.