



CHALLENGING ANIMAL DISSECTION

A Guide for Parents

Many teachers are moving away from animal dissection in favor of humane options such as synthetic animal models, interactive software, and craft projects for ethical, environmental, pedagogical, and economic reasons. However, some misguided educators seem to prefer cutting into dead animals. **Does your child feel they're being forced to participate in animal dissection through coercion, possible grade repercussions, or other means?**

You're not alone! TeachKind Science has assembled this step-by-step guide explaining how to be an effective advocate for your compassionate student.

Teach**Kind** 
SCIENCE

4 EASY STEPS

TO BECOMING AN EFFECTIVE ADVOCATE



KNOW YOUR STATE'S DISSECTION CHOICE LAW: Many states have laws that allow students to opt out without penalty. Check to see whether yours is among them at TeachKind.org/OptOut, and talk to your child about the ethical issues of animal dissection. Even if your state doesn't have such a law, TeachKind can help!



INFORM THE TEACHER: You or your child should let their teacher know that they will not participate in animal dissection and why. Inform the teacher about the outdated and dangerous aspects of this practice and why it is ethically unacceptable. If they're unresponsive, you can contact the principal and, if necessary, the superintendent. You can also contact us at Science@TeachKind.org and we'll be happy to follow up.



PROVIDE A SOLUTION: Let your child's teachers and principal know about TeachKind Science's animal-free resources. Our pilot program even donates humane, non-animal training materials for *free* to qualifying schools.

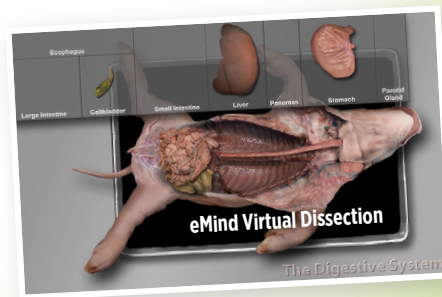


HELP ACHIEVE PERMANENT CHANGE: Contact your school district's science or curriculum coordinator about updating all district schools to animal-free dissection. You can even propose an animal-free dissection policy. Contact us at Science@TeachKind.org for a sample policy.



BENEFITS OF *Animal-Free* DISSECTION

- **Inclusive and cost-effective**, as all students can participate and no repeat purchases are required
- **Combats ecosystem disruption** caused by removing animals from nature
- **Teaches respect** for animals by not using them as if they were just equipment



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