



Rabies Awareness & Prevention Poster Contest KINDERGARTEN – 12th 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 12th 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-8th 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 "Rabies and Kids" [webpage](#) and the DSHS [rabies webpage](#).

Poster rules:

- Posters must say something about "Rabies."
- 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.
- 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-8th grade posters must be hand drawn; high school posters may be digital (computer) or non-digital (traditional) hand drawn art.

Deadline:

Posters will be accepted any time prior to, but no later than, the **April 1, 2024**, deadline!

Hand drawn posters 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

[Addressee]

[Date]

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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.
 - 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:

- Prizes will be selected in early 2024.
- One kindergarten winner will receive several small gifts.
- There will be first, second, and third place winners from 3 categories: 1st-2nd grade, 3rd-5th grade, and 6th-8th grade. Prizes in 2023 were as follows:
 - Grades 1-2: 1st Place – microscope kit; 2nd Place – talking globe; 3rd Place – Visa Gift Card.
 - Grades 3-5: 1st Place – karaoke machine; 2nd Place – LEGO set; 3rd Place – Visa Gift Card.
 - Grades 6-8: 1st Place – Bose headphones; 2nd Place – Fjallraven Kanken backpack; 3rd Place – Visa Gift Card.
- In addition to individual prizes, the classes of the 1st place winners in grades K-8 will be provided \$75 for a class party!
- 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 generous 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.