

59. Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security Cluster - Animal Control Careers (4 hours)

Purpose/Abstract: To introduce students to animal control careers.

NCCCS Adult Education Standards: R.5.2.9, W.2.2.1, M.4.2.3

Learning Objective:
By the end of the session, students will be able to:

- Describe the responsibilities of Animal Control Workers, including investigating animal mistreatment and capturing stray animals.
- Explain in simple terms how Animal Control Workers contribute to public safety.
- Analyze the various skills needed for an Animal Control Career, with a special emphasis on teamwork, using real-life case studies.

Soft Skills	Teamwork	Resources	Animal Control Workers Career Video 33-9011.00 - Animal Control Workers Handouts: Vocabulary Practice - one for each student Keeping Animals Safe and Communities Secure - one for each student Case Studies - one for each group
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Additional Materials

- Vocabulary Practice handout, one for each student
- Keeping Animals Safe and Communities Secure handout, one for each student
- Case Studies handout, one for each group
- Art supplies (glue, glitter, markers, paint, etc.)
- Pencils, paper, and scissors
- Computers for student use

Icons	 Activity	 Check-In	 Review
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PREPARATION

- Watch [Animal Control Workers Career Video](#) and use it to introduce these careers to students.
- Check that the graphs for the Math activity are clear when projected.
- Review the [Instructional Support Guide](#) and print/prepare referenced scaffolds.
- Print handouts.
- Familiarize yourself with [O*NET](#)
- Familiarize yourself with [Skills to Pay the Bills](#), though it won't be used directly in this lesson.

INTRODUCTION (30 min)

Welcome students to the class!



Begin by asking students to share what they know about animal control workers. Based on the responses, ask a few probing questions to understand how much students know about these roles and why they are important for communities. Check if students have interacted with animal control workers and encourage them to share their experiences.

Play [Animal Control Workers Career Video](#) and summarize the key points to add to student responses. Introduce the lesson objectives.

VOCABULARY, READING & WRITING (45 min)

Distribute the vocabulary practice handout and allot 20 minutes for completion. Explain the directions and walk around to clarify doubts. Allow students to work independently or with a partner.

Review the completed sentences with the whole class and share the definitions for terms that are unfamiliar to the students.

Distribute the reading comprehension handout and allow 10 minutes for reading.

REFLECTION (15 minutes)

✓ Ask the following questions to check students' understanding of the passage:

- *What are some of the responsibilities of Animal Control Workers mentioned in the passage?*
- *How do Animal Control Workers contribute to public safety?*
- *How do Animal Control Workers provide immediate care to animals in need?*
- *How do you think Animal Control Workers use teamwork in their jobs?*

Lower Level

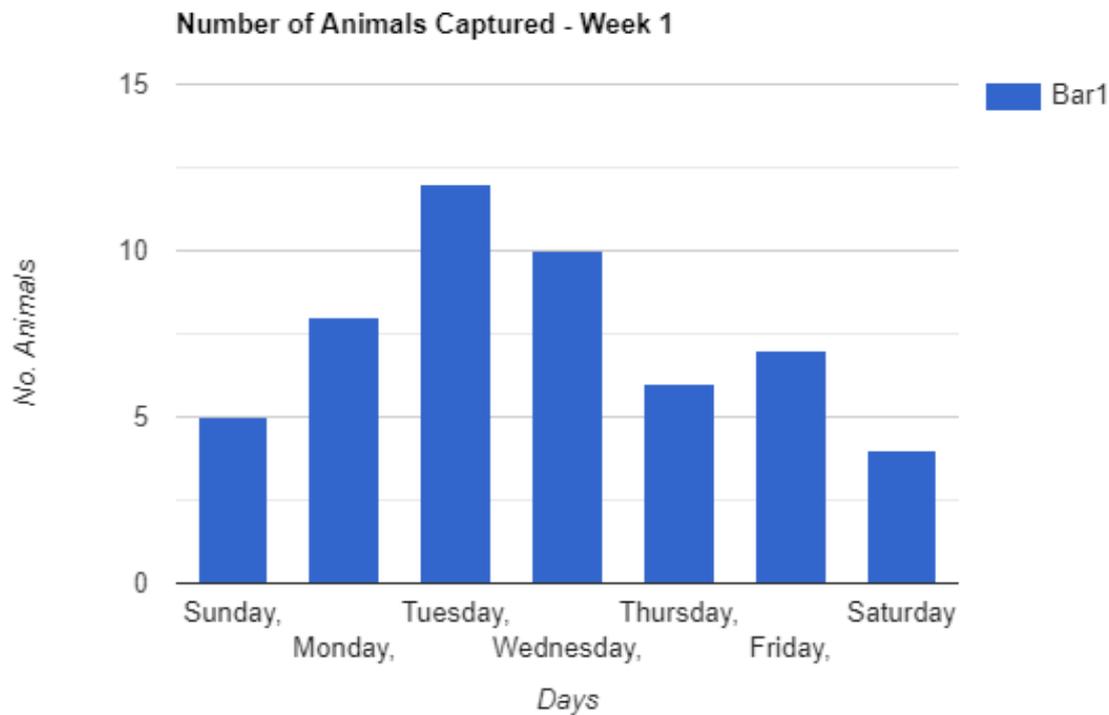
Consider pairing students up.

Higher Level

Challenge students to create new sentences using the words in the vocabulary handout.

MATHEMATICS (45 min)

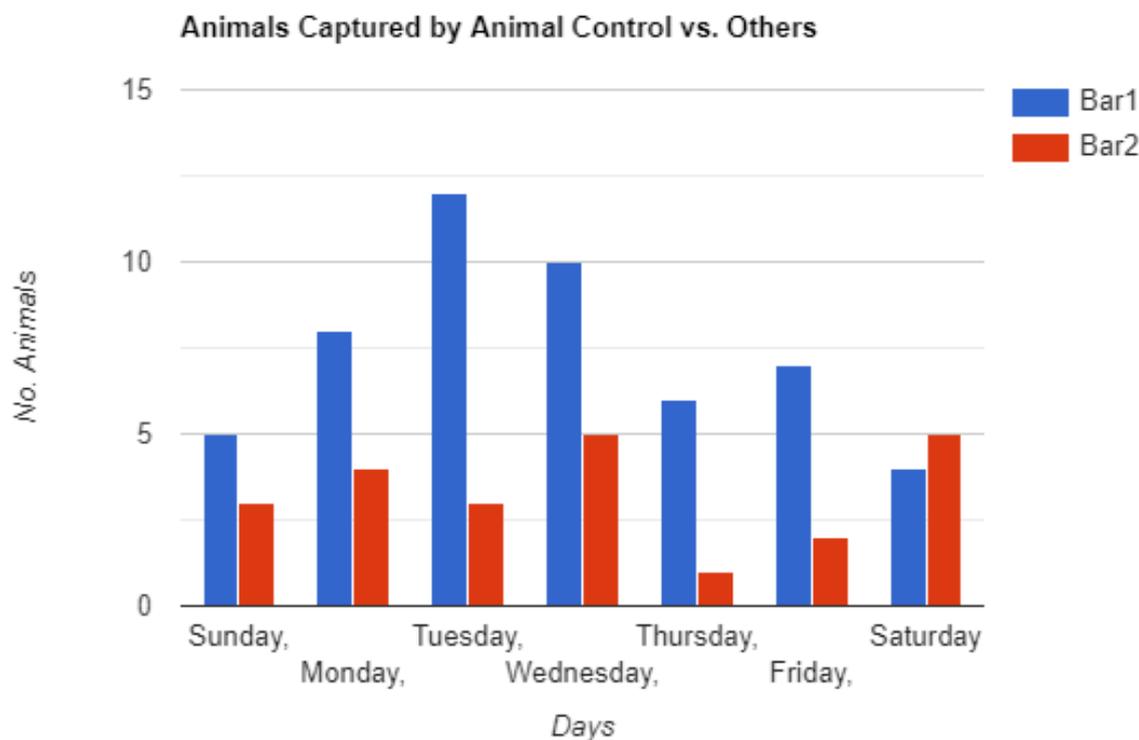
Explain that students will practice interpreting data from bar graphs in the context of tasks animal control workers might perform. Share the math standard and explain why this is an important skill for any career.



Project the first graph and ask the following questions once students have had a chance to analyze it. Start by having students identify the various parts of the graph before moving on to the interpretation questions. Consider having multiple students share their responses for a single question to help you gauge student understanding.

- *How many animals were captured by Animal Control Workers on Wednesday?*
- *Which day had the smallest number of animals captured by Animal Control Workers, based on the data from the graph?*
- *Compare the number of animals captured on Monday and Sunday by Animal Control Workers. Which day had a higher number of captures, and how many more animals were captured?*
- *If the total number of animals captured by Animal Control Workers on Wednesday and Thursday combined was 16, how many animals were captured on each of those two days? Use information from the graph to solve this problem.*

Project the second graph after explaining what it shows. Ask the questions that follow.



- *What is the difference in the number of animals captured by Animal Control Workers on Wednesday and the number captured by others on the same day?*
- *Which day of the week had the largest difference in the number of animals captured by Animal Control Workers and the number captured by others?*
- *If the total number of animals captured by Animal Control Workers and others combined on Monday was 12, how many animals were captured by others on that day? Use information from the graphs to solve this problem.*

REFLECTION (10 minutes)

✓ Invite a small group of students to discuss what aspects they find simple and challenging when it comes to understanding information presented in graphs. Clarify doubts.

Instructor Note: This is designed as a whole class activity to provide students with an opportunity to learn from their peers and with guided support from you. This is a topic that has been covered earlier so, treat this activity as a revision while gauging student understanding. Increase the size of the graphs before projecting them for better visibility.

Lower Level	Higher Level
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Consider modeling how to find information on the graph if students find it difficult to answer the questions.

Encourage students to think about and share where else graphs might be used in Animal Control Careers and what types of graphs might be preferred.



GROUP WORK (60 min)

Inform students that they will collaboratively analyze three real-life scenarios involving Animal Control Workers. The objective is to foster discussion, critical thinking, and reflection on the role of teamwork in these scenarios. Each group will explore all three provided case studies, discuss the scenarios, and answer questions.

Divide the class into groups of 4 students each, ensuring a balanced distribution of abilities. Instruct each group to sequentially analyze all three provided case studies (Case Study 1, Case Study 2, and Case Study 3). Encourage them to designate roles within their groups, such as a note-taker and a timekeeper. Distribute the case study handout to each group.

Guide the groups to read each case study together and discuss the narratives. Ask them to consider the questions provided and reflect on the teamwork exhibited by the Animal Control Workers in each scenario. Encourage them to engage in thoughtful discussions and share their insights within the group.

Allocate time for each group to present their discussion and answers for each case study to the entire class. Each presentation should highlight responses to the case study questions and reflections related to teamwork.

REFLECTION (15 minutes)

Facilitate a collaborative discussion that emphasizes the significance of teamwork in Animal Control Workers' roles. Invite students to share any additional insights that emerged during the group activity such as, how they demonstrated teamwork during the discussions and question responses.

INDEPENDENT WORK TIME (45 min)

Inform students that in this independent writing activity, they will have the opportunity to delve into the essential skills required for an Animal Control Career listed on the page [33-9011.00 - Animal Control Workers](#). Show students how to navigate directly to the worker .

Begin by explaining the purpose of the writing activity. Emphasize that students will step into the shoes of an Animal Control Worker and showcase their understanding of a specific skill that is vital for this career. Provide a list of skills needed for Animal Control Careers. Some examples include problem-solving, teamwork, communication, and empathy. Explain that each student will choose one skill to focus on for their letter. Refer to the webpage linked above.

Spend a few minutes discussing examples of real-life situations that Animal Control Workers might encounter where the chosen skill is crucial. Encourage students to think about how their chosen skill would be applied to address challenges.

Explain that students will be writing a short letter as if they were an Animal Control Worker. The letter should be addressed to a fellow classmate, sharing an account of a specific situation where the chosen skill was employed.

Provide guidelines for the letter's content:

- Introduce themselves as an Animal Control Worker.
- Describe the situation in which the skill was used (e.g., rescuing an injured animal, handling a dangerous situation).
- Explain how the chosen skill was applied and its impact.
- Share any feelings, thoughts, or reflections on the experience.

Allow students approximately 30 minutes to write their letters. During this time, circulate the classroom to provide guidance, answer questions, and offer support as needed.

After writing, encourage students to review their letters for clarity, coherence, and capitalization. .

REFLECTION (15 minutes)

✓ Invite volunteers to share their letters with the class, highlighting the chosen skill and the scenario described. After each sharing, facilitate a brief discussion on how the skill played a role in resolving the situation.

Conclude the activity by summarizing the key takeaways. Highlight how the writing activity deepened their understanding of the skills required for Animal Control Careers and how these skills contribute to effective work in the field.

Instructor Note: This activity aligns with the writing standard W.2.2.1 and aims to reinforce the understanding of the skills needed in this profession.

Lower Level

Support students independently and help them brainstorm ideas on how they can apply the skill to one of the real-life scenarios an animal control worker might face.

Higher Level

Challenge students to write an additional paragraph reflecting on potential alternative approaches to addressing the situation.

WRAP-UP & REFLECTION (15 min)

Summarize the key points of the lesson. Review the objectives.

Ask students to turn to a partner and discuss how animal control workers contribute to public safety. Invite a few pairs to share their thoughts with the rest of the class.

Distribute exit slips to students.

Ask for a few volunteers to share their reflections.

Collect and review the answers.

Vocabulary Practice

Directions:

- Fill in the blanks in the sentences below using the words from the provided vocabulary list. Each word may be used more than once. Pay attention to the context of the sentence and choose the most appropriate word.
- **Vocabulary List:**
 - Mistreatment, Reports, Abandoned, Investigating, Evidence, Capture, Dangerous, Tranquilizer, Conditions, Essential, Cooperation, Welfare, Solutions, Challenges, Interact

1. Animal Control Workers are responsible for _____ cases of animals _____, ensuring that animals are treated with care and respect.
2. After _____, they write detailed _____ to document their findings and actions taken.
3. Animals that have been _____ or are unattended might be in need of _____.
4. The main goal of Animal Control Workers is to _____ situations where animals are hurt or _____.
5. _____ collected from witnesses can help piece together what happened to the animals.
6. Animal Control Workers may need to _____ animals using nets or other tools to ensure their safety.
7. Dealing with _____ animals requires careful planning and specialized equipment.
8. A _____ dart can be used to sedate an animal safely during _____.
9. Animals might be found in undesirable _____ such as _____ buildings or _____ areas.
10. Providing food, water, and personal care to animals is considered an _____ part of their _____.
11. Team _____ is crucial for handling _____ situations effectively and efficiently.
12. Animal _____ involves taking care of animals' overall _____ and happiness.

13. Animal Control Workers often need to find creative _____ to complex _____ they encounter.
14. Overcoming _____ while ensuring animal safety is an _____ aspect of their job.
15. Animal Control Workers need to _____ with both people and animals to understand their needs.

Keeping Animals Safe and Communities Secure

Directions:

- Read the passage below paying special attention to the responsibilities of animal control workers.

Animal Control Workers are dedicated individuals who play a vital role in ensuring the welfare of animals and maintaining public safety. Their responsibilities encompass a wide range of tasks, from investigating reports of animal mistreatment to capturing and providing care for stray or abandoned animals. These professionals serve as a bridge between animals in need and the community, working tirelessly to address various challenges.

One of the key responsibilities of Animal Control Workers is to investigate cases of animal cruelty and mistreatment. They carefully gather evidence, interview witnesses, and write detailed reports that serve as essential documentation for legal actions. Beyond this, they also step in to rescue animals that are abandoned or in danger, using their skills to safely capture and remove animals from hazardous situations. Providing immediate care, such as food, water, and medical attention, is a critical part of their efforts.

In addition to their direct work with animals, Animal Control Workers also contribute significantly to public safety. By addressing situations involving aggressive or dangerous animals, they prevent potential harm to both animals and humans. Their expertise helps ensure that communities remain secure and that animals receive the care they deserve. Through collaboration with law enforcement and animal advocacy groups, Animal Control Workers play a pivotal role in maintaining a harmonious balance between animals and society.

Case Studies

Case Study 1: Rescuing the Stranded Cat

One sunny afternoon, Animal Control Workers were notified about a distressed cat stuck high up in a tree near a residential area. The cat had been there for hours, and its worried owner couldn't coax it down. The Animal Control team arrived with their equipment, including nets and a ladder. They quickly assessed the situation, considering the safety of the cat and themselves. Working together, they strategically positioned the ladder and used gentle techniques to lure the cat towards safety. With their teamwork and careful planning, they successfully rescued the cat, reassuring the grateful owner.

Questions

- *How did the Animal Control Workers approach the situation of rescuing the stranded cat? What were the key steps they took to ensure a safe and successful operation?*
- *In what ways did teamwork contribute to the successful outcome of this case? How did the members of the team collaborate effectively to achieve their goal?*
- *Reflect on the challenges that the Animal Control Workers might have faced during this rescue operation. How did their problem-solving skills and cooperative efforts help overcome these challenges?*

Case Study 2: Addressing a Stray Dog Situation

On a busy street corner, a concerned citizen reported a stray dog that seemed lost and frightened. The Animal Control Workers arrived to find the dog agitated and hesitant to approach them. They understood that this could be a delicate situation requiring patience and coordination. The team worked together to create a calm and secure environment for the dog. One member of the team gently approached the dog with treats while others formed a protective barrier. Gradually, the dog's trust was gained, and they were able to secure it safely. The teamwork of the Animal Control Workers ensured that the dog was taken to a shelter where it could receive proper care.

Questions

- *How did the Animal Control Workers approach the situation with the stray dog? Describe the strategies they employed to ensure the dog's safety and well-being.*
- *What role did teamwork play in gaining the trust of the stray dog and safely securing it? How did the team members coordinate their efforts to achieve a positive outcome?*
- *Reflect on the significance of effective communication and cooperation in scenarios like the one described. How did the Animal Control Workers' ability to work harmoniously contribute to the successful resolution of the situation?*

Case Study 3: Addressing a Rescued Animal's Health Needs

In a local animal shelter, a sick and malnourished dog was brought in by a concerned citizen. The Animal Control Workers, in collaboration with shelter staff, recognized the immediate need for medical attention. While the Animal Control team assessed the dog's condition, the shelter staff prepared a cozy space and essential supplies. The workers united their efforts, with some administering first aid, others providing nourishment, and a few monitoring the dog's progress. Through their combined skills and dedication, they nursed the dog back to health, giving it a second chance at a happy life.

Questions

- *Describe the various roles played by Animal Control Workers and shelter staff in addressing the rescued dog's health needs. How did their collective efforts contribute to the dog's recovery?*
- *How did effective teamwork enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the actions taken to help the dog? Provide examples of how different team members' skills complemented each other.*
- *Reflect on the significance of coordination and cooperation among Animal Control Workers and shelter staff in situations like this. How does teamwork impact the overall well-being of rescued animals?*

Reflection Exit Slip

In one sentence, describe what you learned in this lesson.

Today, I learned _____.

Is one of the careers discussed today of interest to you? Why or why not?

I liked / did not like _____ career because _____

Is there anything you still need help understanding?

What's one question you have?

Circle the emoji that shows how you feel about your mastery of content in this lesson.



Happy



Smart



Confused



Sad



Angry