

## **Year 8 – Animal Rights – Knowledge Organiser**

## **Key terms**

#### **Animal Rights**

The idea that animals should have rights because of respect for life.

#### **Dominion**

Taking charge or having power over something.

#### Humanist

A person who thinks humans are the most important, compassion towards them should come first.

#### Stewardship

Looking after or taking care of something.

### Vegan

A person who does not use any animal products at all e.g. dairy, leather.

## Vegetarian

A person who does not eat meat or fish.

Animals are used for a range of things; companionship, help, work, sport, food, fashion, leisure, entertainment, education about preservation, experiments and scientific developments.

#### **Key Facts and Figures**

2.5m farm animals slaughtered each day in the UK.65% increase in abandoned animals (2007-2012).3% of people in the UK are vegetarian.

Increase of 40% of animal experiments since 2000. 115 million animals killed in experiments a year.

#### **UK Law**

1822 – Law to protect cattle

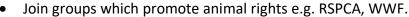
1911 – All animals protected from cruel treatment

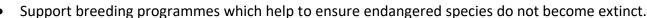
1996 – Label must state if tested on animals

2004 – Hunting wild mammals with dogs illegal

2007 – Animal Welfare Act

## How does society try to protect the rights of animals?





- Taking part in non-violent protests e.g. writing letters, demonstrations, boycotting animal products.
- Choose to become a vegetarian/vegan or refuse to buy items with animal products e.g. fur coats.

#### St Francis of Assisi - Christian



Gave up all his possessions and devoted his life to helping the poor and sick. He called all things in the natural world his brothers and sisters, and wrote a song about nature called 'The Canticles of the Sun'. He spoke to birds and tamed a wolf. He believed we should treat everything in the world like a brother or sister, as God the Father had created us all.

## Arguments FOR the use of animals

**Christianity** – Animal experimentation allowed if it could save human lives as we are made in God's image and have a soul, so are more important than animals.

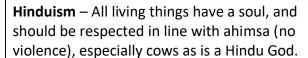
**Islam** – The Qur'an states that animals can and should be used by humans.

**Judaism** – Part of worshipping G-d has involved making sacrifices of animals in the Bible.

Arguments AGAINST the use of animals

Buddhism – Goes against the first precept to

'abstain from killing' and also generates bad karma.



**Islam** – Follow example of Muhammed who cared for animals (e.g. the thirsty camel).

# Key Teachings

"God breathed into Adam the breath of life". (Christianity)

"Rule over every living thing." (Christianity)

"All life is sacred." (Christianity)

"Help not harm every living thing." (Buddhism)

"Destruction of nature, results from ignorance, greed and lack of respect." (Dalia Lama, Buddhism)

"The earth Is green and beautiful and Allah has appointed you as stewards over it." (Islam)

"In nature we see God."
(Sikhism)

"We support the reduction of animal suffering resulting from human behaviour." (Humanism)