

## Vegan Education in Schools

### Vegan Clubs

### Years 7 to 12

## Interactive polls and surveys

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### Overview

Interactive polls and surveys are a dynamic way to engage students and understand their perspectives on animal-related topics. By asking students to vote on issues they care about, such as misunderstood animals or conservation priorities, this activity encourages critical thinking, sparks discussions, and creates a platform for exploring animal rights topics in a participatory and inclusive way. The insights gathered can also guide future activities and campaigns.

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### How to conduct interactive polls and surveys

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#### 1. Choose engaging animal-related topics for polls and surveys.

- Examples of poll questions:
    - "Which animal do you think is the most misunderstood and why?"
    - "Which of these animal rights issues do you care about most: animal farming, wildlife conservation or animal testing?"
    - "What is the most important action we can take to protect marine life?"
  - Examples of survey questions:
    - "Rate how much you agree with this statement: 'Animals have the right to live free from harm.'"
    - "What factors influence your thoughts about eating vegan foods?"
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#### 2. Use digital tools to make the polls interactive and engaging.

- Platforms like Kahoot, Mentimeter or Google Forms allow for real-time participation.
- Display live results on a screen during the activity to foster excitement and immediate discussions.

### **3. Incorporate open-ended questions to encourage deeper reflection.**

- Include questions that invite students to share their thoughts in more detail:
    - "What is one thing you would like to learn about animal rights?"
    - "Can you name an animal you've learned about recently who you think needs more help?"
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### **4. Include multimedia elements to enhance the polls and surveys.**

- Add photos, videos or sound clips to make the activity visually and emotionally engaging.
    - Example: Show images of animals and ask, "Which of these animals is most at risk due to habitat destruction?"
    - Play a short video about marine life and ask, "What is the biggest threat to ocean ecosystems?"
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### **5. Tailor the activity to specific themes or local issues.**

- Focus on topics relevant to students' lives and surroundings:
    - Australian wildlife: "Which native species needs the most protection in your opinion?"
    - Local animal rights campaigns: "What animal rights issue would you like to see addressed in our community?"
    - Environmental connections: "What is the link between climate change and animal well-being?"
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### **6. Use the results to guide future activities and discussions.**

- Analyse the results of the polls and surveys to identify topics students are most passionate about.
  - Example: If many students express concern about endangered species, plan a future session on wildlife conservation.
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### **7. Include anonymous participation to encourage honest responses.**

- Allow students to vote anonymously so they feel comfortable sharing their true opinions, especially on potentially sensitive topics.

## 8. Create group discussions based on poll or survey results.

- After the activity, share the results with the group and ask follow-up questions:
    - "Why do you think this animal was voted the most misunderstood?"
    - "What can we do as individuals to address the issue students care about most?"
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## 9. Make the activity competitive to boost engagement.

- Turn the polls into a quiz with points for correct answers or reward the group with the most creative solutions during discussions.
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## 10. Tie polls and surveys to broader campaigns or advocacy.

- Use the insights to plan student-led campaigns or awareness-raising activities:
    - Example: If students vote marine life as a priority organise a clean-up event or an educational session on ocean conservation.
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## Outcomes

- **Awareness and critical thinking:** Students gain a better understanding of animal rights issues by considering their own views and learning about others'.
- **Engagement and participation:** The interactive nature of polls and surveys keeps students involved and enthusiastic.
- **Guided focus:** The results provide valuable insights into students' interests, helping teachers or organisers tailor future activities.
- **Inspiration for action:** By discussing results, students feel empowered to take action on the issues they care most about.
- **Collaboration and inclusivity:** Group discussions foster a sense of community and encourage everyone to voice their opinions.