



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 [webpage](#) and the DSHS [rabies webpage](#). For more information about rabies awareness, students can watch the short video [Protect People Protect Bats](#).

Poster rules:

- Posters must contain the word "Rabies." Posters that do not mention rabies will be disqualified.
- Hand drawn 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. Students may use previous contest-winning artwork for inspiration but must refrain from copying or recreating artwork.
- 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-5th grade posters must be hand drawn; grades 6-8th and 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 4, 2025**, deadline!

Hand drawn posters may be scanned and saved in PDF format and emailed to The.Vet@dshs.texas.gov OR 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

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:

- One kindergarten winner will receive several small gifts.
- There will be first, second, and third place winners from three categories for hand drawn art: 1st-2nd grade, 3rd-5th grade, and 6th-8th grade. Prizes listed below:
 - Grades 1-2: 1st Place – Art Set; 2nd Place – Roblox gift card; 3rd Place – \$50 Gift Card.
 - Grades 3-5: 1st Place – Fjällräven backpack; 2nd Place – LEGO set OR Stanley Cup; 3rd Place – \$50 Gift Card.
 - Grades 6-8: 1st Place – Wireless headphones; 2nd Place – JBL portable speaker; 3rd Place – \$50 Gift Card.
- There will be one winner for best digital art for 6th-8th grade. The winner will receive a \$100 gift card.
- 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 \$100 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.