

# Roanoke Valley SPCA – Scouting Program

## Cadettes (Grades 6-8) – Animal Helpers Badge

*The Animal Helpers Badge will help you learn how animals help humans. Cadette Girl Scouts will explore the connection between humans and animal, find out how animals keep people safe, know how animals help people emotionally, check out how animals help people with disabilities, and look at how animals may help people in the future.*

- Learn about the Roanoke Valley SPCA (10 minutes)
  - Powerpoint and Shelter Tour
    - Dog rooms and Cat rooms only
- (1) Explore the connection between humans and animals (20 minutes)
  - Powerpoint
    - What are some ways animals have helped humans throughout history?
    - What are some ways animals still help humans?
  - Group Activity
    - Divide Scouts into groups of 3-4
    - Look through the photos of animal helpers and choose one
    - Create a 1 minute skit about your animal helper
    - Each group presents their skit
  - Discussion / Questions
- (2) Find out how animals help keep people safe (20 minutes)
  - Group Activity (Stay in our groups of 3-4)
    - Learn about an animal hero
      - Each group gets a story about an animal hero
      - Create a poster about your animal hero
      - Each group presents their poster about their animal hero
  - Discussion / Questions
- (3) Know how animals help people emotionally (15 minutes)
  - Powerpoint
    - What is the Visiting Pets Program
      - Discuss: How do the ambassador pets help seniors?
    - Who are our Canine Ambassadors
      - What is required for a dog to be a Canine Ambassador?
      - Discuss: Would this program be a good fit your dog? Why or why not?
- (4) Check out how animals help people with disabilities (20 minutes)
  - Powerpoint: Service Animals and Emotional Support Animals (ESAs)
  - Video: Autism Service Dog Feature: Olivia's Story
  - Discuss:
    - How did Romeo help Olivia physically?
    - How did Romeo help Olivia mentally?
    - What were some challenges the family faced to get a service dog?
- (5) Look at how animals might help us in the future
  - Group Activity: Practice being a scientist
    - Observational Chart activity: Cats and kittens
    - Observational Chart activity: Dogs and puppies

Contact the Community Engagement Coordinator  
at [volunteer@rvspca.org](mailto:volunteer@rvspca.org) to get started!

