

GOING VIRAL



Use safe online skills to spread a message far and wide.



This service-learning project is part of Pasado's Safe Haven's Girl Scout programs and helps meet requirements for:
Cadette Animal Helpers Badge

Learn more.

Choose one of the two topics to learn more about and provide Scouts with the appropriate reading below:
Puppy Mills and Puppy Stores
Wool and Feather Free

Understand community need and purpose of project.

After taking assessment of their own products, have Scouts consider what are the most popular cosmetic/hygiene products people in their community likely use.
Which topic would Scouts like to discuss in their video?
What audience do they want to share the video with – younger kids, peers, adults?
What do those people need to learn about the issue?
How do you want to tell them – skit, PowerPoint, animation, etc.?

Plan and prepare.

Scouts plan tasks for each Troop member – encourage them to consider everyone's strengths and interests as they plan the video.

Go viral!

Scouts share the message to pre-approved online sources and try to spread the message with as many people as possible.

Share your work!

Share your project and/or journey with Pasado's Safe Haven to let us know how you taught others to help protect animals!

Share your Scouts' journey and hard work with us!

education@pasadosafehaven.org



PUPPY MILLS AND PUPPY STORES

Many pet stores that sell puppies in store are getting these puppies from a puppy mill.

What is a puppy mill?

A “puppy mill” is a general term to describe places that breed and raise dogs in unhealthy and unsafe conditions. The dogs are kept in dirty, small cages that confine movement. They don’t get to have a happy life like dogs deserve.

What are the dangers of puppy mills?

- **Puppy mills hurt animals.** They do not receive proper care, affection, or socialization. Puppies that come from puppy mills are often sick, and can even die from diseases.
- **Puppy mills spread disease.** Pet stores often bring in puppies from puppy mills across the country. This spreads disease and can bring diseases that can make your pets sick, even if you don’t purchase a puppy from a pet store.
- **Puppy mills hurt people.** People can become sick from the same diseases that puppy mill puppies can spread by being trekked across the country. Pet stores also often try to trick those who purchase puppies. They don’t tell an unaware consumer that the puppy might be sick. They also try to charge very high prices for puppies by deceiving people.
- **Puppy mills hurt rescue animals.** When unaware consumers purchase a puppy from a pet store or irresponsible breeder instead of adopting, that means another dog has to wait longer in a shelter or sanctuary to find a home.

What can we do to help?

- **Spread your knowledge!** Many people purchase puppies from pet stores or irresponsible breeders because they don’t know the dangers. If you know someone considering bringing a puppy into the family, encourage them to consider adoption!
- **Don’t shop at pet stores that sell puppies!** If you see a lot of puppies in cages, find out more about where they came from. If they live at the pet store and didn’t come from a rescue, they could be from a puppy mill. Some pet stores do host adoption events, where invited rescue organizations bring their adoptable animals to be seen at a pet store, but then take them back to a shelter or foster home. This is different than selling puppies! It is always important to politely ask questions if you want to know more.
- **Adopt responsibly!** If you’re interested in bringing a puppy into your family, consider adoption! You can find dogs of all sorts of sizes, breeds, and ages that would be a best match for your family. Check out resources like petfinder.com, adoptapet.com, your local shelter/sanctuary, or the Pasado’s Safe Haven website! If your family is getting a dog from a breeder, make sure you choose a responsible breeder with this checklist: pasadosafehaven.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/responsible-breeder-vs-puppy-mill-WA-.pdf.

Find out more about our Girl Scout programs
www.pasadosafehaven.org/



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WHY WOOL AND FEATHER FREE?

What do your clothing choices have to do with helping animals?

Probably more than you might think! While many are aware of the animal welfare issues that surround leather, which is produced from the skin of animals, there are other clothing materials that can contribute to animal cruelty.

Material such as wool and down can also cause animals to be treated cruelly.

WOOL

Before humans raised sheep for wool, they were able to shed the wool naturally during the warm summer months and grow it back during the winter months. Humans bred sheep to produce much more wool than natural, so that we could shear (cut the wool) and use it. Shearing can be a stressful time for a sheep, and when they are raised for wool people often aren't very careful about doing it kindly – they're more focused on doing it quickly. This can lead to cuts and injuries to the sheep. As sheep get older, their wool production can slow and those raising them may choose to kill them instead of continuing to raise them while they make less money from the wool.

DOWN

Down is a material that is often found in coats, jackets, or bedding. Down feathers are generally plucked from geese. The geese grow their down feathers to help keep them warm. Geese that are raised for their down feathers are usually kept in small spaces and raised very close together. That can be stressful for the birds. Down feathers are often collected after the birds are slaughtered. This is typically very early on in a goose's life – about 5 months old at the latest because that makes it easier to collect down feathers.



**Now safe at the sanctuary,
Abner sheep and Harper goose are
valued for their personalities,
not their products.**



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