

PROJECT INSTRUCTIONS

Let's Hold a Towel & Blanket Drive!

Easy service project that provides comfort and essential care for shelter pets.

APPROX. TIME
Multi-Day

PLANNING NEEDED
Easy

GRADE LEVEL
All Grades

BEST FOR
Groups or Whole Class
Scouts, cubs

ANIMALS HELPED — All shelter pets at your local shelter or rescue

Purpose

Animal shelters use towels and blankets every day for bedding, comfort, grooming, cleaning, and medical care. By organizing a towel and blanket drive, students help provide essential supplies that shelters rely on while learning that simple acts of kindness can make a real difference for animals waiting for adoption.

Materials List

- ☐ Large collection box, bin, or container
- ☐ Markers, magazines and craft supplies to decorate the collection box
- ☐ Poster board or construction paper for signs

Optional:

Printed flyers (school or community)

Social media announcement (with teacher/parent permission)

Teacher Tip: Check with your local shelter/rescue before starting to confirm items they need most.





Instructions

1. Select the shelter or rescue you'd like to support. Contact them to confirm:

- They are accepting towels and blankets
- If there are any restrictions (e.g., towel size, condition, or accepted items)
- When and where to deliver the donations

2. Plan your drive. Decide:

- When your drive will begin and end
- Where to place the collection box
- Who you'll be asking to donate

3. Create your donation station:

Decorate your collection box and make signs or flyers explaining what you're collecting, who you're helping, and where to donate.

4. Spread the word:

- Make school announcements
- Hang posters or flyers
- Share on school social media with parent or teacher permission

5. Celebrate and Deliver Donations!

Before the donations are delivered or picked up, take a group photo to celebrate your hard work. If possible, invite a shelter or rescue representative to pick up the donations so students can meet the people who care for local shelter animals. Ask how your donations will be used so you can share the impact with your class.

Standards Connections

Framework	Connection
Common Core ELA	Reading — Students read and follow multi-step directions to organize the donation drive. Speaking & Listening — Students plan together, create announcements, and explain the purpose of the drive to others. (CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.3, RI.4.3, RI.5.3; SL.3.1, SL.4.1, SL.5.1)
Common Core Math	Limited direct Common Core Math connections. Students may estimate the number of towels and blankets collected, count and organize donations, create simple graphs, or calculate totals by class or grade level.
SEL Competencies	Social Awareness — Students recognize the needs of shelter animals and understand how donated supplies provide comfort and care. Responsible Decision-Making — Students plan, organize, and complete a community service project while following shelter guidelines. Relationship Skills — Students collaborate to organize the drive, create signs, and promote participation.
Service Learning	Community need identified (<i>towels and blankets for shelter animals</i>); students organize a community donation drive that provides essential supplies while learning how their service can make a meaningful difference for local shelters and rescues.

Project Photos

Example Flyer	Kitten in donated blanket
	

Reflection & Discussion Questions

1. Why are towels and blankets so important for animals in shelters and rescues?
2. How do donated towels and blankets help animals feel safer, more comfortable, or healthier while they wait for a home?
3. How did your class or group work together to make this donation drive successful? What was the most rewarding part of helping shelter animals?

Extension Ideas

- **Research Your Local Shelter**

Visit your local shelter or rescue's website to learn more about the animals they care for, their mission, and other ways the community can help.

- **Track Your Impact**

Count the towels and blankets your class collected. Create a graph or chart showing your results and discuss how your donations will help shelter animals.

- **Teach Others**

Design a poster, slideshow, or short presentation explaining why shelters need everyday donations like towels and blankets.

- **Share Your Project**

Document your project with photos and share on social media — tag **@pawsupprojects** and your local shelter.

Did you do this project?

We'd love for you — or an adult — to post your project on Paws Up Projects to inspire others.

pawsupprojects.org/post-your-project