

FALL 2022



VIRGINIA BEACH SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

PAWSITIVE PRESS

A Newsletter For Kids

**The Shelter
Pet Journey**

**Halloween
Safety**

**Create A
Cat Mask**



The Shelter Pet Journey



Each year around 2,500 animals come through the Virginia Beach SPCA to find their forever homes. But have you ever wondered what shelter animals experience before they are adopted? There are many steps to go through from the time an animal arrives at our shelter until they officially go home to enjoy life as a pet.

Introductions: Once an animal arrives at our shelter, the VBSPCA team gets to work learning as much about them as possible. This includes a health checkup and behavior assessment so we know if the animal has any urgent medical concerns or special needs.

Downtime: It can be very stressful for a dog, cat, or small animal when they first get to the shelter. The VBSPCA team makes sure they give our new residents a chance to relax and settle into their new surroundings. We also give them toys to play with, and plenty of attention and love from staff members and volunteers.

Meet and Greets: Once the animal is ready, they are made available for adoption. When someone is interested in meeting them, we take the animal to a visiting room where the potential adopter can get to know them a bit. If the meet and greet goes well, the person or family can fill out an application to adopt the animal!

Veterinary Exam: Before an animal leaves the shelter with their new family, our clinic team gives them a full veterinary exam. This includes a thorough health screening, vaccines, and anything else the animal needs before they leave our care.

When all of these steps are complete, it's time for the animal to go home! It can be hard for us to say goodbye to the animals, but our ultimate goal is to find them loving homes where they can have a family of their own!

Let's Get Creative!

Have fun making your very own cat mask. Grab your coloring tools and begin creating your one of a kind cat mask. Keep in mind, no two cats look the same. Visit our website and print out our mask template. vbspca.com/pawsitivepress.

What you'll need: a printer, scissors, string or ribbon, and coloring tools of your choice.

Then be sure to send us a photo at humaneeducation@vbspca.com.



Avoid Halloween Pet Scares

Is your Halloween costume ready? While planning your costume and your candy route is fun, this holiday can be scary for pets in more ways than one!

Some pets will be happy to investigate your Halloween look, but others may be scared by your costume - especially your mask! Pets don't always understand that it is you under that scary mask or inside that ghost costume. If your furry friend cowers, runs, or hides from you while you are in your costume, do not chase or tease them. Instead, consider waiting to put on your mask until you leave the house.

If you have decided to stay home and hand out candy, make sure your pet won't escape or be scared by visitors when you go to answer the door. Put them in a room and shut the door, make sure they are behind a gate, or keep a leash on them for you to grab before you greet trick-or-treaters.



Finally, once you've finished trick-or-treating, it's very important to make sure you put your candy away! Candy can make your pet very sick, so make sure you don't leave it in a place where your furry friend can eat it.



VBSPCA Animal Awareness Cards

Collect all four and win a prize!

Each edition of the Pawsitive Press will feature a VBSPCA animal. Collect four Animal Awareness Cards and bring them in to the VBSPCA to receive a special prize.

This little lady is Basil. She enjoys nibbling on hay and having someone pet her soft, beautiful fur. Basil has lived with other rabbits in the past and might like another bunny friend in her new home, as long as they are introduced properly. If you think your family would like to adopt Basil, visit the shelter today!

To view all of our adoptable animals visit vbspca.com/adoptable-animals



Basil

Here's Looking at You, Kids!



Sloane

was one of the top fundraisers for our Change for Change Youth Coin Challenge this summer! We had 11 pawsome kids collect coins throughout the summer, and together they raised **\$5,704.76** for the animals of the VBSPCA.

A special thank you to everyone who participated in this annual fundraising challenge!

The challenge will return next summer, so mark your calendars and save your coins!



VBSPCA.COM

3040 HOLLAND RD. VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Upcoming Fun

Halloween Tale for Two - October 24th

Wear your costume and read a book to a VBSPCA animal!
Register at vbspca.com/a-tale-for-two.

Fall Reading Challenge - Now through November 30th

Complete three reading challenges and earn prizes!
Learn more at vbspca.com/virtual-activity.

Animal Heroes - Available Online

You'll learn all about responsible pet parenting, pet safety, and animal welfare. Play now at vbspca.com/animal-heroes.