This writing contest is open to students in grades 3, 4, 5 and 6, residing within the City of Arlington, who are home schooled or attend public or private schools.

Contest begins: ................................................................. Monday, December 13, 2010
Essay entries begin: .......................................................... Monday, January 10, 2011
Contest deadline: ............................................................. 5 p.m. Friday, January 14, 2011

Essay Topics:

Grade 3: If animals could talk, what would they say?
Grade 4: What feelings do you think animals have?
Grade 5: What are some ways that can make life better for animals in your community?
Grade 6: How do animals benefit us in our daily lives?

Essay Contest Guidelines:

• Only one essay per student is allowed.
• Submitted material must be original, must not exceed 500 words, and may be either handwritten or typed.
• Students must reside within the City of Arlington.
• Cover sheet must contain student's name, address and phone number, school, grade and teacher's name.
• Remember that plagiarism is never acceptable will result in immediate disqualification.

Essay Contest Prizes:

Top contest winners from each grade will be awarded a Series EE U.S. Savings Bond.

First Place—$500 bond  •  Second Place—$350 bond  •  Third Place—$150 bond

You Could Win!

● Entries may be hand-delivered to the Water Customer Service Desk at City Hall/first floor, 101 W. Abram St. (8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon-Fri) or the Animal Services Center, 1000 S.E. Green Oaks Blvd. (10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon-Fri). No hand-delivered entries accepted after 5:00 p.m. Friday, January 14, 2011.
● Teachers may mail or hand-deliver all entries from their class, grade or school. If you are a winner, your essay must be emailed in a typed format for website purposes to Chris.Huff@arlingtontx.gov.
● Essays will be judged on the elements of effective writing: Focus and Coherence, Organization, Development of Ideas, Voice and Conventions. The decision of the Essay Judges Committee is final. The panel of essay judges will include, but is not limited to, local citizens and members of the Arlington Animal Services Center Advisory Board.
● For more information, parents should consult their child’s teacher; or contact Chris Huff at 817-459-6269; or visit www.arlingtontx.gov/animals and click on the Animal Essay Contest link.