



## Paw Pals



Paw Pals is where children grades K-5 can learn about cats, dogs, small animals, and farm animals. They'll get familiar with how different animals behave, how to stay safe around them, and discover what care they need. Using Social Emotional Learning (SEL), participants will learn the best practices of humane care. Kids can expect problem solving, hands-on activities, crafts, and meeting many animals! Each Paw Pals session is Monday-Friday for one week.

Sessions will be held Monday through Friday, from 9am-1:30pm. Campers should bring their own mid-day snack or lunch. Each session is limited to 10 campers, and the sessions are as follows:

<b>Session Dates (grades 1-2)</b>	<b>Session Dates (grades 3-5)</b>
July 10-14	July 24-28
July 17-21	July 31-August 4

**Registration Deadline: Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>**

Registration Cost (includes t-shirt): \$300

Coming with your sibling? Have your parent ask us about our family discounts!

Participants will be expected to follow current MHHS COVID-19 protocols.

Email [HumaneEducation@mohawkhumanesociety.org](mailto:HumaneEducation@mohawkhumanesociety.org) with questions.



## PAW PALS

### PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

- Phone: (518) 434-8128 ext.350
- Email: [HumaneEducation@mohawkhumanesociety.org](mailto:HumaneEducation@mohawkhumanesociety.org)

Session Dates (grade k-2)	Session Dates (grade 3-5)
July 10-14	July 24-28
July 17-21	July 31-August 4

#### CAMP SCHEDULE

- Monday through Friday, from 9am-1:30pm

#### DROP-OFF/ PICK-UP PROCEDURES

The Paw Pals entrance is located at 3 Oakland Ave. ***This entrance is where both drop-off and pick-up of campers will take place.*** Parents/guardians are required to escort children into camp on Monday morning only. Each session will spend Friday at West Shaker Heritage Society in Albany, NY. Participants will be expected to drop Paw Pal campers off at this site: 25 Meeting House Road, Albany, NY 12211.

**Anyone who has not been authorized to pick up a camper will not be allowed to check that camper out until we have cleared that person with the camper's parent/guardian/approved custodian.**

If an unavoidable delay arises and you arrive late, call our camp (518-434-8128 ext.350) to alert us. ***Please note that a penalty late fee may be assessed if you are late.*** Please ensure that your child has all of their belongings before leaving.

#### CAMP CURRICULUM

The camp curriculum emphasizes collaboration, critical thinking, and the exchange of ideas with fellow campers. Campers are encouraged to find solutions to many of the challenges animals face in our society today. All Paw Pal sessions include age-appropriate animal care and behavior learning activities, team projects, games, physical activities, crafts, and hands-on interactions with animals such as dogs, cats, guinea pigs, rats, chinchillas, birds, reptiles, and rabbits. The last day of camp each week will be spent at Shaker Heritage Society in Albany. The collaborative



activities offered at Paw Pals are designed to encourage respect for all living things. Age-appropriate material and modified lesson plans have been created to tailor the curriculum for each grade level.

### **WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP**

- A face mask (optional)
- A large, labeled bottle of water
- A hearty, nutritious lunch and morning snack
- Layers of clothing for indoor and outdoor activities, or foggy/cold weather
- Closed-toe shoes for walking & working with animals
- Sunscreen and/or a hat
- Any medications (labeled with a signed medication form)

### **WHAT NOT TO BRING TO CAMP**

- Electronic toys, mp3 players, or video game devices
- Heely's (shoes with wheels on the sole), open-toed or slip-on shoes
- Personal pets
- Umbrellas
- Knives or other weapons

### **ALLERGY INFORMATION**

Many of our campers have a variety of food allergies, some of which may be life-threatening. Allergens that may be encountered in the facility may include but are not limited to dog, cat, rabbit, and small animal dander as well as peanuts and other potential food allergens. This facility makes extensive use of peanut butter, and there are no areas that may be presumed to be free of peanuts.

### **CAMP DISCIPLINE POLICY**

To help maintain the safety and wellness of campers, staff, volunteers, animals, and the general public, the following discipline policy has been established.

Disciplinary action may be taken if a camper displays undesirable behavior that interferes with or disrupts the camp program. Examples of this behavior include inappropriate language, making fun of or insulting others, bullying, using profanity, harming or frightening the animals, physically harming others, not following directions, or unwelcome actions that make other campers feel uncomfortable.



Consequences to undesirable behavior are as follows:

- First offense: Verbal warning from staff
- Second offense: 10-minute time out; follow-up call to parent/guardian
- Third offense: Discipline report filed; meeting with parent/guardian
- Fourth offense: Removal from camp; no refund will be given in this occurrence
- *In the event of extreme infractions, MHHS reserves the right to remove a camper from the program immediately without prior warnings, and no refund will be given.*

Every effort is made to accommodate campers with special needs, including campers with behavioral challenges. Parents/guardians of children who need special attention or have behavioral challenges must notify us of the issue in the “additional notes” section of the online registration form. Camp staff is trained to manage many common health and behavioral disorders; however, campers with severe behavioral disorders that may continuously interfere with or disrupt the camp program must have an aide present.

### **HANDS-ON ANIMAL INTERACTIONS**

We strive to provide an enriching learning experience and ensure the safety and comfort of all animals and participants in our care. As such, participants should not expect to spend the entirety of camp directly interacting with animals. We have a limited number of animals with which our campers may interact, and the animals need time to relax and recuperate from the excitement of our hands-on sessions. Camper interactions with animals may include feeding, grooming, and training.

A note about animal safety: Campers will interact only with animals that have been approved for safety and disposition by MHHS animal welfare professionals. Campers will not interact directly with adoptable adult dogs in the shelter due to safety and liability restrictions. Instead, campers will interact with dogs belonging to staff and volunteers.