

**Re: Animal dissection in**

Dear

I have just learned that students are expected to participate in activities involving animal dissection for our coursework. Because of my sincerely held moral beliefs against harming animals, I am politely refusing to participate in these activities and would like to request a humane, educationally equivalent non-animal assignment.

Each year, millions of frogs, rats, fish, and other animals suffer and are killed for dissection. They're bred in warehouses, snatched from the wild, and even taken from animal shelters before they end up on a dissection tray. These animals' suffering during capture, transport, warehousing, and slaughter is significant.

I respectfully request that, consistent with the guidance of leading science-education organizations, you provide me with an animal-free activity—one that does not involve dissecting or experimenting on any animal, living or dead. Studies have shown that using computer programs, dissectible models, and other animal-free dissection tools can teach students like me just as well as (or better than) animal dissection. Many of these options also save schools money because they can be used over and over and can often be obtained at no charge from humane education organizations. Some are even available online for free.

I would like to meet so that we can discuss this and plan for our school to consider going completely animal-free. Please contact me with your availability at

Thank you for your time and your consideration of my request. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,