

Problem Based Learning

West Virginia Students Help Pass the Big Cat Public Safety Act.

Purpose: To educate students about the abuse of big wild cats and give them a voice in ending the abuse by writing a letter to West Virginia Senator Capito in support of the Big Cat Public Safety Act.

Lesson -

- Background information - Why do big cats need help?
 - Listen and/or read “A Forever Home”
 - Download the app Storyio, choose Kids Books, listen to Carole Baskin, Founder of Big Cat Rescue, read the story

Big Cat Rescue supporter and teacher, Lisa Spencer-Novak wrote this based on the real stories of some of the rescued animals at Big Cat Rescue Sanctuary in Tampa, Florida. Her daughter, Veronica Spencer, illustrated it.



Using Haiku , ”A Forever Home” contains before and after text and pictures that simply illustrate examples of abuse and rescue of a few of the cats.



Big Cat Rescue Project

- Read the stories of the cats in the book and find examples of before and after of other animals at <https://bigcatrescue.org/catbio/>
 - Make pages that could go in the book
 - Tell another example that could be put in the book
 - Write Haiku to describe the plight of another abused animal
- Look at the substance of The Big Cat Public Safety Act at <https://bigcatrescue.org/big-cat-act/>
 - Depending on age level, you may need to simplify this
 - There are other resources on this page for middle school/high school
- Create a letter to explain why The Big Cat Public Safety Act needs to be passed
 - Include specific reasons.
 - Be sure to give your return address
- Send the letter to Senator Capito because she is a senior member of the group who has been assigned the bill, The Environment and Public Works Committee.