



**HEART  
ACTIVITY**

# FRANCIS & FRIENDS

## VISIT AN ANIMAL SHELTER

written by Carol Peterson

### Activity Instructions

Many pictures of St. Francis show him with animals. There are also many stories of St. Francis interacting with animals (birds, wolf, etc.). Francis cared for all animals. Some pets don't have loving homes. We can't adopt all animals, however we can care for them by helping our local animal shelters.

1. Explain to the child/children how much Francis loved all of God's creation, especially the animals. Explain that while we might have some pets, there are also ways we can help other animals that don't have homes.
2. Call your local animal shelter and ask if there are any items they need that can be donated (i.e. pet food, old towels and wash cloths, etc.). Also ask for information about how people in your community volunteer at the shelter. Ask what is a good day and time to bring children for a visit.
3. Have the children collect items to donate or help them purchase items with part of their allowance.
4. Visit the animal shelter with the child/children. Ask them to look for ways that people are helping to take care of the animals.

### Discussion Questions

1. Do you think animal shelters are a good idea? What might happen to the animals if there was not a shelter to care for them?
2. How did it make you feel to take a donation to the animal shelter?
3. What are the ways people at the shelter were caring for the animals?
4. For older children: Might you like to volunteer at the animal shelter in the future? Why or why not?

### *Supply List*

Items to donate.

Transportation to the shelter.

Bible to look up Psalm 148:1-10



### *Prayer*

*Psalm 148 1-10*

Praise the Lord from the heavens ...

Praise him from the heights ...

Praise God all the earth ...

Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds.

Praise the Lord!

Amen