



Fact Sheet

“Animal Connections: Our Journey Together” is a traveling exhibit on an 18-wheel truck that introduces visitors of all ages to the complex bond between humans and animals. Presented by the Smithsonian Institution to mark the 150th anniversary of the American Veterinary Medical Association in 2013, the project is made possible through support from the American Veterinary Medical Foundation and the generous support of founding sponsor, Zoetis, Inc., a company that discovers, develops and manufactures veterinary vaccines and medicines.

Created to inspire the next generation of veterinarians, the exhibit uses a dynamic combination of interactive learning stations, films and touch screen videos, and three-dimensional settings to explore topics about animals in the home, on the farm, in the wild, at the zoo and in the veterinary clinic. It also highlights the varied roles veterinarians play in the health of animals.

For the safety of animals and people, visitors are asked not to bring pets.

Visitors to “Animal Connections” can continue the learning experience online at animalconnections.com. The site includes resources on animal care and careers in veterinary medicine.

Exhibition Overview

“Animal Connections” is a 1,000-square-foot interactive science exhibition. Central project objectives:

- 🐾 All people benefit from an enduring bond with diverse members of the animal kingdom —whether they are pets in the home, livestock on the farm or animals in the wild.
- 🐾 Animal health is directly tied to our own well-being, and we look to veterinarians as active partners in ensuring our shared health.
- 🐾 Diverse jobs in veterinary medicine bring to bear skills of problem-solving, investigative science, communication, medical knowledge and compassion.

Highlights:

- 🐾 1,000 square feet of interior space with interactive displays, video screens, games, and hands-on and minds-on activities.
- 🐾 Five main sections: The Home, The Farm, The Zoo, The Wild and The Veterinary Clinic.
- 🐾 Featuring a behind-the-scenes look at animal care and research at the National Zoo.

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