



HSUS COST COMPARISON

Humane Society of the United States' Cost Comparison of Dissection Alternatives Vs. Specimens

How does the cost of buying dead animals for dissection compare with buying humane alternatives? The figures below are based on a hypothetical school's need for a three-year period. Reusable materials (dissection tools, tray, computer programs, models, charts, etc.) are treated as a one-time purchase. Costs are based on a ratio of two students per animal dissected (45 animals a year, 135 animals over three years). This comparison assumes that the school already has computers and CD-ROM players, but no VCRs. Because dissection manuals are needed for dissection but are also useful stand-alone study guides, they are included under both Alternatives and Dissection headings. Low and high prices of preserved animals were obtained from the Nasco Science 1999 Catalog and the Alternatives (1999 prices) were selected from available lists, catalogs and databases. Numbers of alternative materials were derived based on the assumption that students would not be using all alternatives at one time.

C A T

<u>Alternatives</u>		<u>Dissection</u>	
Anatomy model (x2)	\$800	High cost per animal (\$48.45 x 135)	\$6,541
Dissection video (39 minutes)	\$70	Low cost per animal (\$23.75 x 135)	\$3,206
CatWorks (x4)	\$360	64 page dissection manual (x30)	\$285
Catlab (CD-ROM) (x4)	\$200	Supplies (x135)	<u>\$1,500</u>
64 page dissection manual (x30)	\$285		
VCR	<u>\$150</u>	High Cost -	\$8,326
		Low Cost -	\$4,991
	\$1,865		

Alternatives can save between **\$6,461** or **\$3,126!!!**

Bullfrog

Alternatives

Frog Inside Out Video (67 minutes)	\$159
Pictorial Atlas (x30)	\$269
Great American Bullfrog (model) (x2)	\$1,310
The Digital Frog (CD-ROM) (x4)	\$600
Dissection Works (CD-ROM) (x4)	\$240
BioCam dissection chart (x30)	\$90
VCR	<u>\$150</u>

\$2,818

Dissection

High cost per animal (11.25 x 135)	1,519
Low cost per animal (5.97 x 135)	\$806
Pictorial Atlas (x30)	\$269
Supplies	<u>\$1,500</u>
High Cost -	\$3,288
Low Cost -	\$2,575

Alternatives can save **\$470!!!**
(or cost an extra \$243)

Fetal Pig

Alternatives

Fetal pig model (x2)	\$590
BioCam dissection chart (x8)	\$90
Dissection Works (CD-ROM) (x8)	\$1,600
Fetal pig anatomy video (26 min)	\$70
56 page dissection manual (x30)	\$285
VCR	<u>\$150</u>

\$2,785

Dissection

High cost per animal (14.85 x 135)	\$2,005
Low cost per animal (3.15 x 135)	\$425
56 page dissection manual (x30)	\$285
Supplies	<u>\$1,500</u>
High Cost -	\$3,790
Low Cost -	\$2,210

Alternatives can save **\$1,005!!!**
(or cost an extra \$575)

Created by the Humane Society of the United States