

Did you know that you have the right to refuse to dissect animals in Rhode Island?

It's true! Each year, 10 million animals (including frogs, cats, and fetal pigs) are cruelly killed and then cut up in classrooms across the country—even though humane alternatives exist. Studies have shown that students who use alternatives to dissection perform just as well as—if not better than—students who cut up animals. You don't have to dissect animals! Explain to your teacher that you won't be dissecting and that the law [R.I. Stat. § 16-22-20 (1997)] gives you the right to say no to cutting up animals in Rhode Island:

(a) A parent(s) or legal guardian of any student in a public or nonpublic primary or secondary school may refuse to allow their child to dissect or vivisection any vertebrate or invertebrate animal, or any part of a vertebrate or invertebrate animal

...

(c) A teacher shall not discriminate against a student for not participating in dissection or vivisection and shall not lower a grade because a student's parent or legal guardian has chosen an alternative education project. [R.I. Stat. § 16-22-20 (1997)]

Dissection is unnecessary and cruel. Stand up for animals, and exercise your rights. Choose not to dissect.

For more information or to get involved, visit PETAKids.com or e-mail us at PETAKids@peta.org.

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