



- What:** Animal Research Education & Awareness (AREA) Program
- When:** 9:00 am – 1:30 pm, Thursday, October 6
- Who:** Select San Diego area science teachers and students
- Where:** San Diego Convention Center
- Why:** To receive an enlightening and entertaining education about the use of animals in biomedical research.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) is a professional, nonprofit association of nearly 12,000 people concerned with the study, care, and use of laboratory animals. Since 1950, we've been dedicated to the humane care and treatment of laboratory animals and the quality research that leads to scientific gains benefiting both people and animals.

AALAS holds a scientific conference each year during the fall, and this year San Diego has been chosen as the host city. The National Meeting is the largest gathering in the world of professionals concerned with the production, care, and use of laboratory animals in biomedical research. We expect over 4,000 attendees at this year's meeting in San Diego.

As part of our meeting each year, we bring in some local science teachers and their students for a day of learning. Your child's teacher has been extended an invitation to attend this year's Animal Research Education & Awareness (AREA) Program during our meeting this year.

AALAS developed the AREA Program to promote the benefits of biomedical research to the public and to foster a lasting partnership between scientists, students, and educators. The AREA program introduces science students and educators to the field of laboratory animal science and provides them with accurate answers to questions they may have on the use of animals in biomedical research.

The AREA Program can accommodate up to 150 students, teachers, and chaperones. The classes attending the event have a genuine interest in biomedical research and the teachers have expressed a desire to educate their students about laboratory animal science and the essential role of animals in research and education.

More and more each day, animal rights activists spread negative publicity about the use of animals in research and have hit particularly hard in our schools. AALAS provides benefit to everyone by supplying positive and truthful information on the field of laboratory animal science to students and educators.

We are sure your child will have an exciting look into our field and will come home with many fascinating stories of things witnessed during the day. The ultimate goal is to have your student gain a better understanding of and appreciation for the field of laboratory animal science and the need for animals in biomedical research.

Should you have any questions or concerns about the AREA Program, please contact me at 901.754.8620.

Sincerely,
Mike Mathy

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR LABORATORY ANIMAL SCIENCE

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