

Name Model ..... Topic Human-Animal Interaction .....



Area of Investigation Animal Usage in Society .....

Inquiry Path Should animals be used for medical research? .....

In a few sentences, write a synthesis of what you have learned from your research about this Inquiry Path. This synthesis should provide an answer to your Inquiry Path, referencing your sources. At this point, you are NOT yet expected to provide your personal perspective. You simply give an account of your findings and analysis of sources. Draw from the Forming and Organizing Evidence-Based Claims tools you have developed for this Inquiry Path and use connecting words to help express the logic of your ideas.

It is clear that while there is a growing movement to find alternatives to medical research that do not involve using animals, currently there are no alternatives that allow researchers to continue developing cures to life-threatening diseases and illnesses.

First, it is important to note that "Most medical research does not use animals." "Wherever possible, alternatives such as cell cultures, tissues, computers, bacteria, and plants are used instead." For example, many toxicity studies today no longer require the use of animals. "As we learn more, we are better able to mimic conditions outside the body for many studies that once required animals."

Stuart Derbyshire defends animal research stating that "it is equally undeniable that it is only by using laboratory animals that we have been able to make the medical advances and therapeutic progress of the past, and that this will also be necessary for further developments."

For instance, "Vaccines such as polio, tetanus, diphtheria, Hepatitis B, and small pox were all developed using animals," and "...experimenting on the human brain is difficult because scans of live brains are imprecise. Scientists say monkeys are ideal for the research because their brains are similar to human brains and are affected by many of the same diseases." Even though many researchers do not always need to use animals to do research, they will at times need to use animals for the benefit of human society.