

# Did you know that you have the right to refuse to dissect animals in Illinois?

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 [Dissection Alternatives Act 105 ILCS 112/15 et sq (2000)] gives you the right to say no to cutting up animals in Illinois:

A school may excuse a student enrolled in a course in which students are ordinarily expected to perform, participate in, or observe dissection who objects for any reason to performing, participating in, or observing that dissection and instead allow the student to complete an alternative project. The alternative project should be nonpunitive and should be reasonably chosen to provide the student, through means other than dissection, with knowledge similar to that expected to be gained by other students in the course who perform, participate in, or observe the dissection. [Dissection Alternatives Act 105 ILCS 112/15 et sq (2000)]

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](http://PETAKids.com) or e-mail us at [PETAKids@peta.org](mailto:PETAKids@peta.org).

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