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- ▶ Nominate yourself or a colleague to receive our National Humane Teacher of the Year award
- ▶ See options for parents to order home subscriptions of *Kind News*, now available for **\$10 each**, including six annual issues and a parents guide
- ▶ Download a worksheet for your students



## Teachers Guide

PRIMARY EDITION: RECOMMENDED FOR GRADES K-2

**The theme of *Kind News* is kindness to people and animals and respect for natural habitats.** Its emphasis on humane values, such as fairness, compassion and responsibility encourages good character in children and its colorful design, simple vocabulary and engaging subject matter help instill reading habits.

You are now receiving the **Primary** edition of *Kind News*. If you prefer a more challenging reading level, you may switch to the **Junior** edition. Please allow 6-8 weeks for your new edition to arrive.

### SUBSCRIPTION QUESTION?

WE WILL BE HAPPY TO HELP YOU. PLEASE CONTACT US AT:

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[kindnews@humanesociety.org](mailto:kindnews@humanesociety.org) · [humanesociety.org/kindnews](http://humanesociety.org/kindnews)

#### KIND NEWS

EDITOR, CATHERINE VINCENTI; ART DIRECTOR, JENNIFER LAUMANN; DESIGN CONSULTANT, KALICO DESIGN; MARKETING MANAGER, RACHEL FELDMAN; EDUCATION ADVISORS, HEIDI COLONNA, STEPHANIE ITLE-CLARK, ED.D., KAMA EINHORN

#### HSUS PUBLICATIONS

VICE PRESIDENT, NANCY LAWSON; CREATIVE DIRECTOR, JENNIFER BEEL; EDITORIAL DIRECTOR, CARRIE ALLAN; OPERATIONS MANAGER, BETH McNULTY

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# kind NEWS™

## Teachers Guide

DEC/JAN  
2014-15

PRIMARY EDITION  
RECOMMENDED FOR GRADES K-2

This is a time of year when people get together to share the joys of the season. We are, in fact, social animals. We play and work together in groups. Many other animals exhibit social behavior. They often live together in groups, such as colonies or herds, and help each other in many ways. As we turn to a new year, ask students to reflect on how we can make life more pleasant for all animals—including humans.



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THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
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**FLIP OVER!**

Turn the page for  
Common Core  
activities to use in  
your classroom.

## COMMON CORE-ALIGNED ACTIVITIES

**SL.K-2.1** Participate in collaborative conversations with peers and adults.

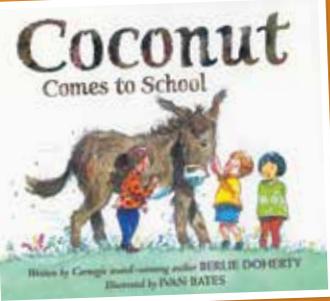
**Speaking of social animals ...** On the board, list the group names for the animals listed below. Then, in random order, call out the animal names, one at a time. Can students guess the correct group name? Cross the correct answers off the list as they are guessed. Ants (colony), bees (swarm), clams (bed), fish (school), monkeys (troop), geese (flock or gaggle); gnats (cloud), kangaroos (mob), toads (knot), wolves (pack).

**What's Up?** Do reindeer fly? Remind students that though no one has ever seen it happen, it is rumored that Santa's reindeer fly! Normal reindeer do not. Can students name animals, real and imagined, who do fly? Which ones crawl? Swim? Hop? Slither? Walk? Swing?

**Help us select the best candidate for the 2015 National Humane Teacher of the Year award!**

The award recognizes a pre-K-12 teacher who effectively incorporates humane education (animal welfare, environmental and prosocial education) into his or her curriculum. Visit [humansociety.org/humaneteacher](http://humansociety.org/humaneteacher) to nominate yourself or a colleague.

## BOOK NOOK



**Coconut Comes to School** by Berlie Doherty, illustrated by Ivan Bates. The schoolchildren have come to know the sound of Coconut's bray and the familiar rhythm of her canter. Every morning, they anxiously await

the brown-eyed donkey's appearance in their classroom window. Cranky Mr. Clapper, on the other hand, is not as fond of Coconut's forays into the schoolyard, so he hatches a simple scheme to keep her out. When the teacher's plan fails and his life hangs on the brink, guess who comes trotting to the rescue? Readers will cheer for the story's happy ending and the hee-hawing hero.

## KIND QUIZ

RL.K-2.1



**Test your students** to see what they've learned from this issue of *Kind News*.

**1 Why is handling turtles dangerous?**

*Turtles carry salmonella bacteria that can be harmful to people, especially children.*

**2 What is a habitat? A place where a plant or an animal naturally lives and grows.**

**3 A tortoise would rather live a) in a river, b) in the desert, c) in the ocean.**

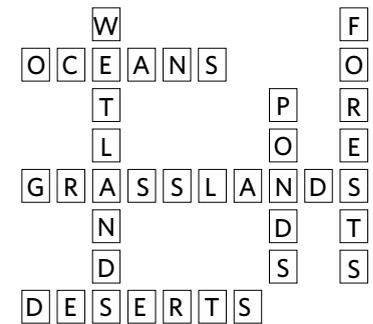
**4 How fast can tigers run? Up to 35 miles per hour.**

## ANSWER KEY

**Bet You Can Do It!** FROM PAGE 2

- |       |       |
|-------|-------|
| 1 yet | 5 met |
| 2 wet | 6 pet |
| 3 vet | 7 let |
| 4 get |       |

**Totally Turtles** FROM PAGE 7



## Critter Clues / SL.K-2.2

**Can your students guess the mystery critter?**

- I'm the official small mammal of Texas.
- Beetles, ants, termites—yumm!
- I use my sharp claws to dig burrows. My long sticky tongue helps me find insects.
- Streams or rivers don't stop me. I just walk along the bottom to get to the other side.
- My name means "little armored one."

**Our mystery critter is an armadillo.** Of the 20 species of armadillo, only the nine-banded armadillo is found in the United States, mainly in the south-central and southeastern parts of the country. The official small mammal of Texas, the nine-banded armadillo gives birth to four identical young—all male or all female. During hot weather, armadillos tend to be nocturnal, but will forage by day when the weather turns cooler. They use their strong legs and sharp claws to dig burrows and search for insects. Their long sticky tongues are useful in pulling ants and termites from their tunnels. Armadillos have poor eyesight, but their keen sense of smell helps them locate food. Collisions with vehicles are one of the armadillo's biggest threats.

