

# kind News™

2011  
NOV - DEC  
PRIMARY  
GRADES  
K-2

Purr-fect  
tips for  
playtime  
p. 2

Make holiday  
"tweets"  
for birds!  
p. 7

The  
wonderful  
world  
of mutts!

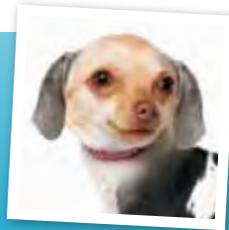
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A PUBLICATION OF



THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES

inside  
**THIS  
ISSUE:**



**4** Meet the mutts



**6** Wild Neighbors!



**8** Opossum family learns a lesson

## Pet Corner

**Keeping cats indoors keeps them safe.**

It also keeps birds and other small animals safe from them. But cats — like their wild cousins — love to hunt. **You can help them “hunt” safely indoors, without hurting anybody!**

### TRY THESE GAMES!

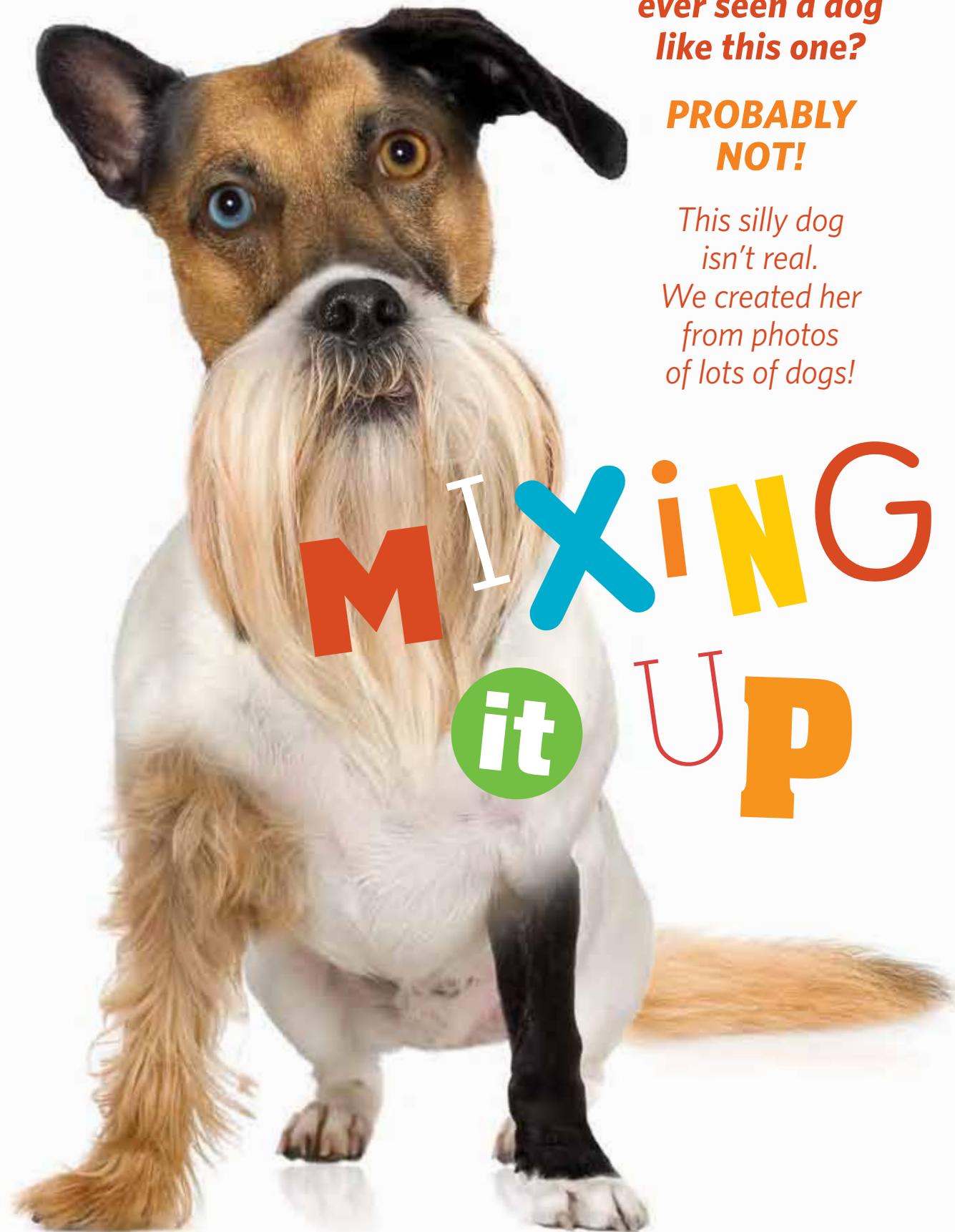
- 1 Tie a cat toy to a string.**  
Hold the toy up high, or drag it across the floor.
- 2 Shine a small flashlight**  
on the floor and up a wall.
- 3 Wind up a toy mouse**  
and let it go. Watch kitty chase and pounce on her “prey!”

# PETS LIKE TO PLAY!

Play with your pets every day. Playing is fun and gives pets exercise. It helps them feel happy, calm, and friendly.

Draw a picture of yourself playing with a pet.





**Have you ever seen a dog like this one?**

**PROBABLY NOT!**

*This silly dog isn't real. We created her from photos of lots of dogs!*

**MIXING**  
**it UP**



**MANY DOGS** are a bit of this and a bit of that.

They're called mixed-breed dogs, or **mutts**. That's because their parents are each a different kind (**breed**) of dog. Mom might be a beagle, and dad a poodle. Their pups might have beagle ears and curly poodle fur!

All dogs are either mixed-breed or purebred. Purebred dogs have parents who are the same kind of dog. They look just like their parents.

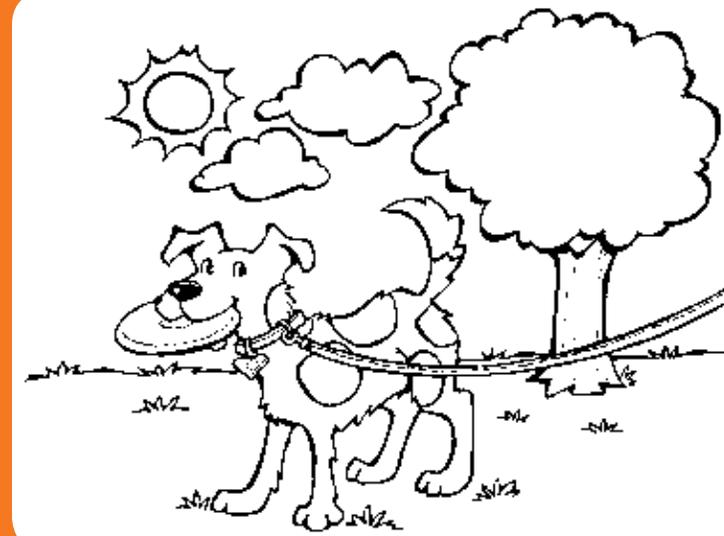
Can't decide if you want a cuddly cocker spaniel, a brave boxer, or a playful pug? **Get 'em all—adopt a mutt from your local shelter!**

## DOG DETAILS

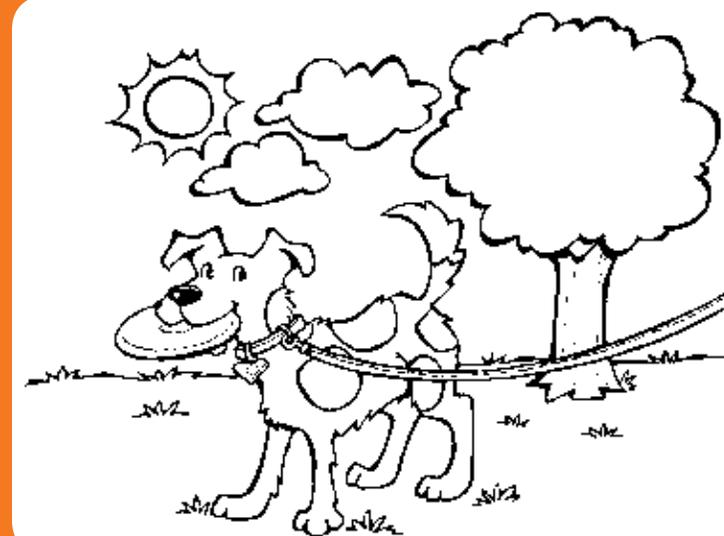
**SOME PEOPLE THINK** mutts are not as good as purebred dogs. Not true!

Mutts make great pets. They may even be healthier than purebred dogs.

Animal shelters have lots and lots of pets, both purebred and mixed-breed, looking for homes.



These dogs look alike. **Color them to make them look different.**





Northern  
Cardinal

❄️❄️❄️  
**SOME BIRDS LIKE TO EAT  
ON THE GROUND.**

If there is snow below your feeder, stamp it down with your boots. That way seed won't sink out of sight.

# Feed birds this winter!

**Just keep these  
tips in mind.**

❄️❄️❄️  
**DON'T FORGET THE DRINKS!**

Fill a trash can lid or shallow bowl with water. Add fresh water every time you refill your feeders. Make sure the water doesn't freeze.

❄️❄️❄️  
**KEEP FEEDERS  
CLEAN.**

Fill with only enough food for a couple of days. Birdseed that is wet and moldy can make birds sick.

❄️❄️❄️  
**PICK A SAFE  
PLACE.**

Place feeders away from shrubs and piles of wood. Other animals can hide in these places and jump out to attack birds.



Black-capped  
Chickadee



Hang your  
finished treats  
from trees!



**YOU CAN  
DO IT!**

# MAKE Holiday Treats

FOR  
**WILD BIRDS  
TO EAT.**

## NUTTY BUDDIES

- pinecone
- peanut butter mixed with a little cornmeal
- birdseed

Tie a length of string onto a pinecone. Smear the pinecone with the peanut butter and cornmeal mix and roll it in birdseed.



## BREAKFAST BASKETS

- oranges
- black oil sunflower seeds
- raisins, apple chunks, peanuts

Cut oranges in half and scoop out the insides. Poke holes on opposite sides. Knot yarn through the holes and tie at the top. Fill each bowl with fruit, nuts, and seeds.



To the  
**RESCUE!**



## DID YOU KNOW?

Animals with pouches for babies are called **marsupials**.

Opossums are the only marsupials in the U.S.

When opossums are scared, they play dead.

# An Opossum's Secret

CAPE WILDLIFE CENTER | BARNSTABLE, MASS.

**AN OPOSSUM WAS FOUND** on the side of a road. She had been hit by a car. The person who found her brought her to the Cape Wildlife Center. The veterinarian there took care of a cut on the opossum's nose. He checked her all over. This opossum had a secret! She had five tiny babies, called **joeys**, in her pouch.

### BE A FRIEND TO WILD ANIMALS.

Remind drivers  
to slow down and  
watch for wildlife!

The opossums stayed at the center until the babies grew. Then the family was let go where they were found. We hope they have learned a lesson: *Look both ways before they cross the road!*



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