...And more at *humanesociety.org/kindnews*

- Find more information about recent developments for captive orca whales and performing elephants
- Learn more about efforts to ban shark finning and programs to help beavers
- 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 an activity sheet for your students

Teachers Guide

SENIOR EDITION: RECOMMENDED FOR GRADES 5–6

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 Senior edition of *Kind News*. If you prefer a less challenging reading level, you may switch to the Junior edition. Please allow 6-8 weeks for your new edition to arrive.

SUBSCRIPTION QUESTION?

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KIND NEWS

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kind News™

Teachers Guide

AUG/SEPT 2016 | SENIOR EDITION RECOMMENDED FOR GRADES 5–6

Welcome back to school and another year of fun, thought-provoking issues of *Kind News!* We begin the school year with news about animals used in entertainment. Earlier this year, Ringling Bros. ended the use of elephants in their circuses and SeaWorld pledged to phase out the use of performing orcas in their theme parks. These decisions—which will have a huge impact on the future use of animals in entertainment—were made in large part as a result of pressure and criticism from the public. We hope you and your students enjoy lively discussions on the topics in this issue.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

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FLIP OVER!

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

COMMON CORE-ALIGNED ACTIVITIES

W.5.1 Write an opinion piece on a topic, supporting a point of view with reasons and information. Members of the Starfish Club tried to convince legislators to pass a law in their state that would protect sharks. Ask students to write a law that they would like to see passed. The law would make a better world for people, animals or the environment. Students should explain why, in their opinion, the law should be enacted and provide reasons to support their position.

SL. 5.1 Engage effectively in a collaborative discussion, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly. Ask students to describe their perfect "habitat." They may envision a home with many luxuries, such as an indoor pool or basketball court. Then ask them what basic things they really need to survive. How would they feel if those things were taken away? Turn the discussion to animals' survival needs and ask how we can keep from destroying animals' homes and their habitats.

RI. 5.7 Use information gained from a text to demonstrate understanding of the text. Once students have guessed this issue's mystery critter, remind them that one of the clues tells us that beavers are the largest rodent in North America. Explain that while they hold the record in North America, beavers are only the second largest rodent in the world. Challenge students to research and discover the identity of the largest rodent. (The answer is the capybara, native to South America. Capybaras can weigh as much as 175 pounds, yet are shy and gentle animals, spending most of their time near swamps and water sources.)

BOOK NOOK

Middle school student Kelsey Case discovers three abandoned kittens thrown in an alley dumpster and enlists the help of fellow students Becca Morales and techno geek Leo Polanski to discover the culprit—and *The Curious Cat Spy Club* is born. The book is the first in a series by author Linda Joy Singleton, who keeps her readers guessing as the young sleuths attempt to solve this mystery—and also find the answer to why so many pets are suddenly missing all over town. While Kelsey and Leo may never be part of the popular Becca's crowd at school, the three youngsters band together with the common goal of helping animals—and end up learning the true meaning of friendship.

THIS PAGE, FROM TOP: ARCO IMAGES GMBH/ALAMY; ROBERTO NISTRI/ALAMY; BACK PAGE: IMAGE BROKER/ALAMY

ANSWER KEY

Critter Clues FROM PAGE 7

Our mystery critter is a beaver, the largest rodent in North America and second largest in the world. Beavers are strong swimmers and can swim underwater for up to 15 minutes. They build their homes, called lodges, from sticks and mud. The entrances to the lodge are underwater, providing beavers with protection against predators. Beavers like to keep a high water level around their lodges. If the water isn't deep enough, they'll build a dam downstream that creates a pond around their lodge. They cut down trees for the dam and their lodge with their strong teeth. Beaver dam building creates habitats for many wetlands animals. Sometimes people feel beaver activity damages trees and may cause flooding, so they want to destroy the dams or harm the beavers. But that's not necessary. Ornamental trees can be easily protected and flooding can be prevented with flow devices, consisting of a pipe threaded through the beaver dam to keep the water flowing and keep a tolerable water level for the beavers at the same time.

Kind Quiz FROM PAGE 8

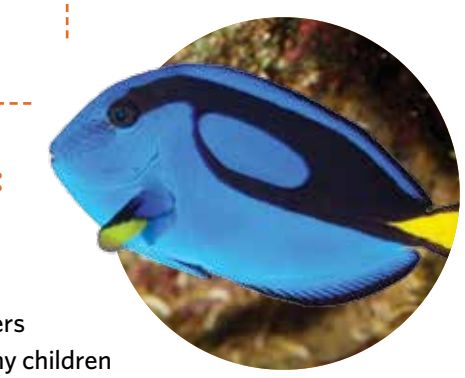
1. Students' answers will vary.
2. Students' answers will vary.
3. Answers may include keeping them indoors with the rest of the family, grooming pets regularly, playing with them and providing them with healthy food and veterinary care.
4. Students' answers will vary, but may include performing their natural behaviors such as building a nest/home, foraging for food, migrating and living with others of their kind.
5. oceans
6. Possible answers include rats, pigeons, raccoons, rabbits, mice, squirrels, coyotes, fox, deer, ducks, geese, insects and people.

Habitat Chat FROM PAGE 7

1. T	6. F
2. T	7. T
3. T	8. F
4. F	9. T
5. T	10. T

Online Activity Sheet

worth, cage, sold, ways, home



Protect Dory:

DON'T BUY WILD-CAUGHT FISH AS PETS

Disney/Pixar's film *Finding Dory* hit theaters this summer, and many children will ask for a Dory of their own. But blue tangs like Dory should live in the ocean—not in a fish tank. Look for more on this topic in the next issue of *Kind News*. In the meantime, download the Tank Watch app at ***forthefishes.org***.