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- ▶ Watch a video of the otter's recovery and release
- ▶ Take the Humane Backyard pledge and find more ideas for creating a humane backyard—or schoolyard
- ▶ 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 page for your students



Teachers Guide

JUNIOR EDITION: RECOMMENDED FOR GRADES 3-4

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 **Junior edition** of *Kind News*. If you prefer a more challenging reading level, you may switch to the **Senior edition**. If you prefer a less challenging reading level, you may switch to the **Primary 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:

kindnews@humanesociety.org

TELEPHONE: 877.902.9757 (TOLL FREE) FAX: 818.487.4550



kindnews@humanesociety.org · humanesociety.org/kindnews

KIND NEWS

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

HSUS PUBLICATIONS

CREATIVE DIRECTOR, JENNIFER BEEL; EDITORIAL DIRECTOR, CARRIE ALLAN;
OPERATIONS MANAGER, BETH McNULTY

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kind News™

Teachers Guide

AUG/SEPT
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JUNIOR EDITION
RECOMMENDED FOR GRADES 3-4

Welcome back! Summer fun is wrapping up, and it's time for another year of learning. But first, let's take a moment to look back 10 years ago this month, when Katrina came calling on the U.S. Gulf Coast. Even though our young readers won't remember the storm, the lessons learned in its aftermath are valuable for all. We hope our readers will never experience a storm like Katrina, but preparation is the key to surviving any emergency. In this issue we discuss the importance of including pets in emergency plans.



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THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

FLIP OVER!

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



COMMON CORE-ALIGNED ACTIVITIES

W.3-4.7 Conduct short research projects that use several sources to build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic. Ask students to research river otters' natural behaviors and use the information to describe skills the river otter at Cape Wildlife Center would need to survive in the wild. Students should explain how the items given to the otter at the center could help her learn those natural behaviors.

SL.4.1c Pose and respond to specific questions by making comments that contribute to the discussion and elaborate on the remarks of others. Engage students in a discussion about two of the laws mentioned in this issue: breed specific legislation and the PETS Act. Remind students that laws are rules that are intended to help people live together safely and peacefully. They set guidelines for what we can and cannot do. Ask: How does including pets in emergency planning help people as well as pets? Moreauville's breed ban was intended to keep citizens safe from dangerous dogs. How will enforcing leash laws instead of banning certain breeds achieve that goal? Do you think city leaders made the correct decision? Why?

BOOK NOOK



In each issue of *Kind News*, we showcase the work of staff members—including wildlife rehabilitators—at the animal care centers operated by The Humane Society of the United States and The Fund for Animals. Give students a better understanding of what wildlife rehabilitators do by sharing

with them *Animal Helpers: Wildlife Rehabilitators* by Jennifer Keats Curtis. The photographic journal takes readers on a tour of some of the day-to-day duties of wildlife rehabilitators as they ready the wild animals in their care for release back to the wild. Use the additional information at the back of the book and educational activities at sylvandellpublishing.com to supplement your class discussion.

FRONT PANEL: CHAD SISNEROS/THE HSUS

THIS PAGE, FROM TOP: BÉREK R. AUDETTE/ISTOCK; CHAD SISNEROS/THE HSUS; BACK PAGE: WVAUGURSKI/ISTOCK



ANSWER KEY

Critter Clues FROM PAGE 7

Found in most parts of the world, our mystery critter—a squirrel—is among the most familiar wild animals. Squirrels' small, curious faces and daring acrobatics make them one of the best-loved animals. Ironically, they also rank as some of the least popular, considered by some as "pests" in backyards, attics and gardens. There are a number of squirrel species, including gray, red, fox and flying. 🐿️ Squirrels use their long, bushy tails to balance as they jump and climb, steer as they swim and cover their bodies to keep dry and warm. They also wave their tails to send signals to other squirrels. 🐿️ Burying seeds and nuts throughout their territory, they're credited with replanting forests. Learn ways to solve common problems without harming squirrels at humanesociety.org/kindnews.

Kind Quiz / RI.3-4.1 FROM PAGE 8

- 1 Squirrels' bushy tail held above the head serves as an umbrella; when wrapped around the body it's a warm blanket; while jumping, climbing or swimming it's a useful rudder; and it's used as a flag to signal other squirrels.
- 2 Wild animals need to learn how to survive in the wild on their own. Relying on or becoming too comfortable around people may put them at risk when they are released back into the wild.
- 3 Cats are natural hunters. When allowed outdoors they may stalk, attack and possibly kill birds and small animals.
- 4 Students' answers will vary.
- 5 The Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standard (PETS) Act.

Don't Cage Me In! FROM PAGE 7



Online Worksheet

EMERGENCY SCRAMBLE

- 1 Coast
- 2 leave
- 3 safety
- 4 damage
- 5 shelters
- 6 world
- 7 state
- 8 disaster

Students' stories will vary.

