

# kind news™

## Parents Guide

JUNIOR EDITION • AUG/SEPT 2015

Teaching kindness to animals and respect for natural habitats while helping to instill good reading habits in children

### KIND TIME

**SUMMER FUN IS** wrapping up, and it's time to prepare children for another year of learning. But before we move forward, 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 horrific storm, the lessons learned in its aftermath are valuable for all. The impact of the storm was immeasurable—to both humans and animals. Many people refused to heed the mandatory evacuation order because their pets weren't allowed in shelters for humans and they wouldn't leave pets behind.

Less than a month after Katrina hit, the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act was introduced in Congress and signed into law in 2006. It requires that states seeking Federal Emergency Management Agency assistance must include pets in their emergency response plans.

Remind children that an emergency requiring your family to leave home may never happen, but it's important to be prepared, and including pets in emergency plans is a must. Thanks to lessons learned from Katrina, we no longer have to leave our pets behind.

**DO YOU HAVE TIPS** for dealing with pet problems? We'd love to hear them. Send them to [kindnews@humanesociety.org](mailto:kindnews@humanesociety.org).

### 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](http://sylvandellpublishing.com) to supplement your class discussion.



...And more at [humanesociety.org/kindnews](http://humanesociety.org/kindnews)

- ▶ Watch a video of the river otter's recovery and release
- ▶ Take the Humane Backyard pledge
- ▶ Download an activity page for your children

Celebrating 60 Years



THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES

# 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](http://humanesociety.org/kindnews).

## Kind Quiz 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 Childrens' 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  | 5 shelters |
| 2 leave  | 6 world    |
| 3 safety | 7 state    |
| 4 damage | 8 disaster |

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.



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