

# kind NEWS™

## Parents Guide

SENIOR EDITION • AUG/SEPT 2015

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

### KIND TIME

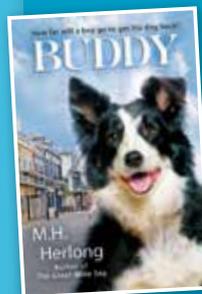
**SUMMER FUN IS** wrapping up and it's time to prepare children for another year of learning. But before we move forward, let's take a moment to look back 10 years ago this month, when Katrina came calling on the U.S. Gulf Coast. Even though our young readers won't remember the horrific storm, the lessons learned in its aftermath are valuable for all. The impact of the storm was immeasurable—both to human lives as well as to 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



**Buddy** by M.H. Herlong is the perfect supplement to your discussion of the events leading up to and following Hurricane Katrina. A

young boy named Lil' T finally gets the dog he has yearned for his entire life only to have to leave him behind when his family evacuates their New Orleans home as Hurricane Katrina approaches. Unable to return for weeks, Lil' T's worst fears about the fate of his three-legged dog are confirmed when they finally get a chance to view the devastation that was once their home—and Buddy is nowhere to be found. But Lil' T never gives up hope for reuniting with his pet. Along the way, he learns valuable lessons about responsibility, courage and compassion.



...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.
- 6 Childrens' answers will vary.

## 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 **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.



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### 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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