

# kind NEWS™

## Parents Guide

SENIOR EDITION • FEB/MAR 2015

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

### KIND TIME

**MANY PEOPLE HAVE** fond childhood memories of feeding ducks, geese and swans at a local park or pond. In this issue, we examine the problems caused by feeding waterfowl food lacking the proper nutrients the birds need for good health. In addition to creating empathy and responsible behavior toward waterfowl, it can be a springboard for discussion of proper nutrition in humans as well.

**A GREAT WAY TO EAT** healthier is to go meatless one day a week. It's an effective way for your family to eat a healthy diet, go green and help animals. To learn more about participating in Meatless Monday and sign up to receive a weekly Meatless Monday recipe, visit [humanesociety.org](http://humanesociety.org).

**TIE ONE TOGETHER.** Even if you don't have a cat of your own, you can still create the cat bed in this issue with your child. They're easy and fun to do. Make one or more and donate them to a local animal shelter or rescue.

### BOOK NOOK



Winner of several awards, *Going Home: The Mystery of Animal Migration*

by Marianne Berkes, illustrated by Jennifer DiRubbio, is the perfect supplement to discussions about changing seasons and animal migration. A former teacher, Berkes combines poetry and informative prose in this "creative non-fiction" book, while DiRubbio's colorful illustrations bring the mystery of migration to life, highlighting a number of fascinating critters who travel long distances to locate food, raise young and seek optimum temperatures. More information is included at the back of the book and activities are available to download at [dawnpub.com](http://dawnpub.com).



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

- ▶ Watch a video about angel wing
- ▶ Download the Protect Seals App and learn how you can help save seals
- ▶ Learn more about creating a Humane Backyard
- ▶ Download a worksheet for your child

Celebrating 60 Years



THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES

# ANSWER KEY



## Critter Clues FROM PAGE 7

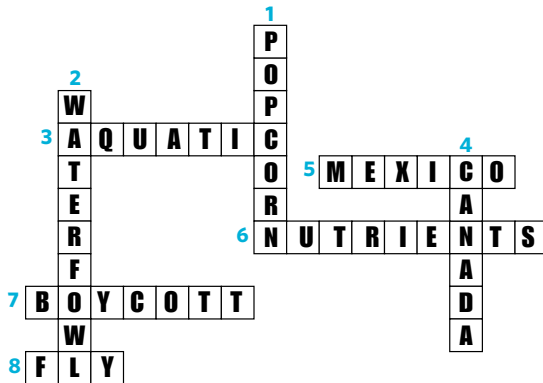
**Our mystery critter is a mallard duck.** With webbed feet and broad,

boat-shaped bodies, mallards propel themselves easily through the water, but their body shape is also responsible for the way they waddle on land. 🦆 Male mallards are called drakes; females

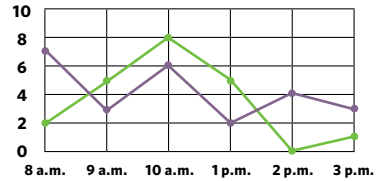
are called hens. Drakes have bright-colored plumage—a green head, white neckband, brown breast and black tail. Females are dull in comparison, with shades of brown and tan. Females' coloring, however, allows them to blend in with their surroundings, keeping them safe from predators when nesting. 🦆 Mallards tip forward in the water, tail feathers in the air, and use their webbed feet to steady themselves while searching for food underwater. This is called “dabbling” or “upending.”

## Online Worksheet

### KIND NEWS CROSSWORD



## Feeder Figures



- 1 Wednesday 2 10 a.m. 3 4 4 46

## Kind Quiz FROM PAGE 8

- 1) b) wants to help protect seals.
- 2) It means that people stop buying seafood from Canada until the seal hunt ends.
- 3) “Angel wing” is a condition young waterfowl can develop due to a poor diet. Birds with the condition have wings that unnaturally twist outward instead of lying flat against the bird’s body.
- 4) We can stop feeding them people food.
- 5) Seven
- 6) When it has warmed up enough for tree sap to begin to run.

## Help us select the best candidate for the 2015 NATIONAL HUMANE TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD!

The award recognizes a PreK-12 teacher who effectively incorporates humane education (animal welfare, environmental and prosocial education) into his or her curriculum. Deadline for nominations is Feb. 15, 2015.

Visit [humanesociety.org/humaneteacher](http://humanesociety.org/humaneteacher) to nominate a deserving educator.

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; MARKETING MANAGER, RACHEL FELDMAN; EDUCATION ADVISORS, HEIDI COLONNA, STEPHANIE ITLE-CLARK, ED.D., KAMA EINHORN

### HSUS PUBLICATIONS

VICE PRESIDENT, NANCY LAWSON; CREATIVE DIRECTOR, JENNIFER BEEL; EDITORIAL DIRECTOR, CARRIE ALLAN; OPERATIONS MANAGER, BETH McNULTY

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