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- ▶ Watch a video about angel wing and learn how to create a Humane Backyard
- ▶ 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 a worksheet for your students



## Teachers Guide

PRIMARY EDITION: RECOMMENDED FOR GRADES K-2

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

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#### KIND NEWS

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# kind NEWS™

## Teachers Guide

FEB/MAR  
2015

PRIMARY EDITION  
RECOMMENDED FOR GRADES K-2



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.



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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

**L.K-2.1 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.** *Many animals are less active at this time of the year, but you can bring action into your classroom! Tell students that you're going to name an animal. Have students give you at least two action words (verbs) that tell about that animal. Example: snake—slithers, hisses, rattles. Animals: cat, lion, kangaroo, elephant, hippo, crab, caterpillar, frog, giraffe, cow, spider, mouse.*

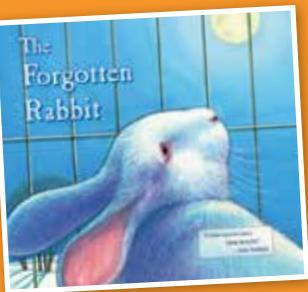
**SL.K-2.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with peers and adults.** Ducks, geese and swans belong to a family of animals called waterfowl. Animals of the same family may differ in significant ways, including whether they are domestic or wild. Give students clues to some of the wild counterparts of these domestic animals. See if they can guess the animals: a horse in a striped coat (zebra); a polka-dotted cat (jaguar, leopard, cheetah or ocelot); dog who runs in a pack (wolf); a fish as big as a boat (shark). Ask: How might it be harmful for humans to share their homes with a wild animal? How might it be harmful to the animals?

Help us select the best candidate for the 2015 National Humane Teacher of the Year award! Visit [humanesociety.org/humaneteacher](http://humanesociety.org/humaneteacher) to nominate yourself or a colleague.

## BOOK NOOK

Its timely and important message makes *The Forgotten Rabbit* by Nancy Furstinger, illustrated by Nancy Lane, a worthwhile book to share with students before the Easter holiday. It's the story of a rabbit born at a farm and then sold as an Easter pet, only to be

forgotten and neglected after the holiday. Fortunately for this rabbit, a young girl comes into the bunny's life and gives her the love and attention the little rabbit deserves. The Gryphon Press ([thegryphonpress.com](http://thegryphonpress.com)) offers discounts on the book for schools and nonprofits as well as a free downloadable lesson plan and tips for raising rabbits.



FRONT PANEL: ARTERRA PICTURE LIBRARY/ALAMY

THIS PAGE: FROM TOP: MEREDITH LEE/HISUS; WILLIAM LEAMAN/ALAMY; ILLUSTRATIONS: CHAD THOMPSON; BACK PAGE: ALEXIA KHRUSCHEVA/BIGSTOCK

## KIND QUIZ

RL.K-2.1



**Test your students** to see what they've learned from this issue of *Kind News*.

- Why isn't it a good idea to feed waterfowl "people" food?** *Our food doesn't give the birds the nutrients they need to grow, often resulting in a condition called angel wing.*
- What does a healthy diet for ducks and geese include?** *A natural diet for waterfowl includes insects, grass and water plants.*
- What is another name for a woodchuck?** *Groundhog*
- In spring, monarch butterflies begin a long journey back from their winter home in \_\_\_\_\_ . Mexico**

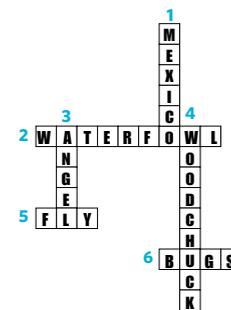


## ANSWER KEY

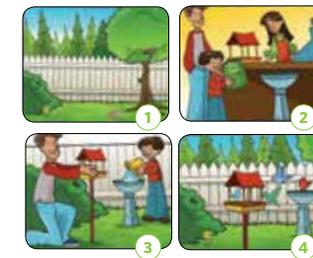
### Love is in the Air!

When giving Valentine treats to those we love, don't forget pets. But remember, people food, especially *chocolate*, can make pets very sick. Give pets treats made just for them.

### Online Worksheet Kind News Crossword



### Owen's Humane Backyard



## Critter Clues / SL.K-2.2

### Can your students guess the mystery critter?

- I build my nest on the ground, usually near water.
- My webbed feet help me move smoothly through water, but not on land.
- When I eat, it's often "bottoms up."
- Dad's much brighter than mom. In fact, mom's kind of dull.
- Drake is my brother's name—and my dad's and all my uncles.

**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."