



...And more at humanesociety.org/kindnews

- ▶ Explore humane ways to resolve conflicts with skunks
- ▶ Learn more about rabbit housing and care
- ▶ Find information about low-cost spay/neuter surgery
- ▶ 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 sheet 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:

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

FEB/MAR
2016

PRIMARY EDITION
RECOMMENDED FOR GRADES K-2

Each year since 1981, The HSUS and its affiliates have given the National Humane Teacher of the Year Award (formerly the National Kind Teacher Award) to a preschool-grade 12 teacher who has consistently incorporated humane education into his or her curriculum and/or motivated students to get involved in community service for animals. Nominate yourself or another teacher for this award by filling out the form at humanesociety.org/humaneteacher. The deadline for nominations is Feb. 15, 2016. The winner will be notified before the end of the 2015-2016 school year.



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A PUBLICATION OF



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

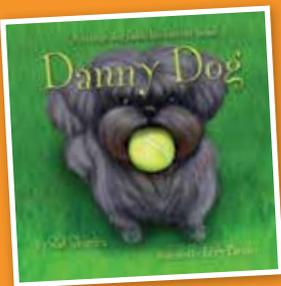
SL.K-2.1b Participate in collaborative conversations.

Skunks often get a bad rap, but they are actually very helpful to humans—they eat many insects and rodents often referred to as garden pests. Can students name other unpopular or maligned animals? Their list may include bats, spiders, rats, snakes, bees, wolves, coyotes and sharks. Ask students to think of at least one thing about each of these animals that's positive. Remind students that all animals play a role in nature and deserve respect.

SL.K-2.5 Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions when appropriate to clarify ideas, thoughts and feelings. Read "Cooped Up Kitty" on page 8 with the class. Discuss what the bobcat kitten in the story might have been feeling: first when she was in the coop, when she was rescued, at The Fund for Animals Wildlife Center and when released back into the wild. Have students choose one of the scenes in the story to illustrate.

L.K-2.f Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage (use frequently occurring adjectives). In this issue, the author says that "Soon we'll begin to see, hear and smell signs of spring." Ask students to use adjectives to describe some of their favorite signs of spring.

BOOK NOOK



Danny Dog: A rescue dog finds his forever home by Sid Shapira is the heartwarming, true story of a lovable dog found wandering outside a store by two children. Realizing that they aren't able to keep him, the children are relieved

when someone from an animal rescue group agrees to find him a home. But weeks go by as the little dog waits patiently for someone to adopt him. Children will rejoice when after a potential adoption falls through, Danny finally finds his forever home.

THIS PAGE, FROM TOP: GLOBALPI/ISTOCK PHOTO; KATHY MILANI/THE HSUS;
BACK PAGE: TUNED_IN/ISTOCK PHOTO

ANSWER KEY

February 23 is World Spay Day! FROM PAGE 7

Spaying and neutering are good for **rabbits** too.



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ACTIVITY SHEET

It's a Green Life

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| 1 b | 4 d |
| 2 a | 5 c |
| 3 e | |

KIND QUIZ

RL.K-2.1

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

- 1 Why was the staff at The Fund for Animals Wildlife Center happy to see the bobcat kitten pounce on her food? It was a sign that her mother had taught her some hunting skills. She will need those skills to survive in the wild.
- 2 What do skunks do to warn you to stay away before spraying? They stamp their feet and raise their tail.
- 3 Why do many pet rabbits end up in animal shelters? People don't realize the amount of care that live rabbits need.
- 4 Spaying and neutering operations can help a) reduce the number of books on a shelf, b) reduce the number of homeless pets, c) reduce the cost of school clothes. b) reduce the number of homeless pets



CRITTER CLUES / SL.K-2.2

Can your students guess the mystery critter?

- 1 I have strong, short legs and clawed feet. They help me dig my underground home.
- 2 I have many calls, including yips, barks, chirps and squeaks.
- 3 My "barking" gave me my name.
- 4 We eat grass, weeds and flowers growing on our prairie home.
- 5 One of my relatives gets a lot of attention on February 2.

Our mystery critter is a prairie dog, named by early pioneers for the way the animal barks and yips. Their different calls are a prairie dog's alarm system, warning other prairie dogs of danger. 🐾 Members of the rodent family (that also includes groundhogs), prairie dogs live in large "towns" or colonies, with each family occupying its own underground house or tunnel system. A burrow has areas that serve as the kitchen, bathroom, living room and bedrooms. 🐾 Considered by some as pests, prairie dogs are often poisoned and shot for sport and their colonies are bulldozed to make way for new construction. 🐾 But prairie dogs need our protection. Scientists have named them a "keystone species," because so many other animals depend on them as food or for shelter. Many other animals move into and live in prairie dog burrows. 🐾 Learn how to help prairie dogs at prairiedogcoalition.org.