

# kind NEWS™

## Parents Guide

PRIMARY EDITION • DEC/JAN 2015-16

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

### KIND TIME

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**THIS ISSUE OF KIND NEWS**—which includes tips on keeping pets safe during cold winter weather and throughout the busy holidays, as well as information on helping the canine members of our families overcome fear of being left alone—is perfect for families to read and share together. Best wishes for a happy, healthy new year to all members of your family—including the furry ones!

**MAKE 2016 HAPPY FOR WILDLIFE AS WELL.** Go outdoors with your kids and gather items to make the feeding wreath on page 6. Hang the wreath on a fence or tree where critters will be safe when they come to partake of the treats!

**DOWNLOAD THE ONLINE ACTIVITY PAGE** and read and discuss “The Decision” as a family. Ask: What was the dilemma that was keeping Logan awake in this story? Why do you think that Logan made the choice he made? Do you agree or disagree with his decision? Why? What might you have done differently? What do you think happened next?

**AS WE RING IN THE NEW YEAR,** ask your children: What is your new year’s wish for people and animals? What can we do to help make that wish come true?

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**LEARN HOW YOU CAN ENTER TO WIN A KITTY PLAY ZONE AT [HUMANESOCIETY.ORG/KINDNEWS](http://HUMANESOCIETY.ORG/KINDNEWS).**

### BOOK NOOK



Award-winning author George Ella Lyon’s lyrical verse in *What Forest Knows*

immerses young readers in the sights and sounds of the forest as seasons change from winter through spring, summer, fall and back to winter. Accompanying readers on their journey is a large red dog who playfully investigates the wildlife he encounters each season. Illustrator August Hall cleverly teases us by providing only small glimpses of the dog in each spread—until we come face to face with the rambunctious pup and his human friend at the end of the book. Lyon’s poetry invites readers to explore nature and observe wildlife throughout the year, encouraging us to “Listen. Look.”



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

- ▶ Learn more about helping pets with separation anxiety
- ▶ Find information on common household dangers for pets
- ▶ Download an activity page for your children

Celebrating 60 Years






THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES



# CRITTER CLUES *Can your child guess the mystery critter?*

- 1 I can change colors, but I'm not a chameleon.
- 2 Sometimes I hide from predators by squeezing into small cracks in rocks.
- 3 The ocean is my home.
- 4 I have three hearts and eight arms.
- 5 If I want you to leave me alone, I'll squirt ink in your face.

**Our mystery critter is an octopus.** Octopuses have three hearts: one that pumps blood to their entire body along with two that supply blood to their gills. They also have eight arms that they use to catch prey and deliver it to their beaklike mouth.  Octopuses are found in oceans where they often set up a den in the cracks in rocks or holes they dig on the ocean floor.  Octopuses have a number of ways to escape predators, including swimming backward and blowing a smoky cloud of ink at the predator. The ink blocks the predator's view, giving the octopus time to escape.  Octopuses have a complex brain and are considered the most intelligent animals without a backbone.

## ANSWERS

### Below the Snow FROM PAGE 3

1. Squirrels tunnel below the snow to find acorns they buried in the fall.
2. Snails hide under logs or rocks. They tuck themselves into their shells. Now they're all set to sleep!
3. Beavers aren't bothered when ponds freeze over. The lodges they build keep them cozy and dry. The lodges have exits above and below water. Beavers can easily get to food they've stored under frozen ponds.
4. Chipmunks gather and store seeds and nuts in the fall. That way, they don't have to leave their underground den. They sleep for days at a time, waking only to eat.

### Play Keep Away FROM PAGE 7

T	I	N	S	E	L
S	D	R	O	C	I
K	B	O	W	A	G
O	A	L	L	N	H
O	I	V	Y	D	T
H	O	L	L	Y	S

Keep holidays safe and happy for **all!**

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.



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