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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

DEC/JAN 2015-16

PRIMARY EDITION
RECOMMENDED FOR GRADES K-2



With the busy holidays and winter break upon us, class time becomes all the more limited and precious. While we hope you will be able to incorporate this issue into your curriculum, remember that *Kind News* can simply be sent home for students and their families to enjoy together. This issue—which includes tips on keeping pets safe during cold winter weather and throughout the 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.



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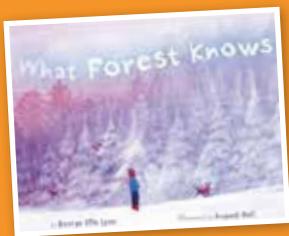
Turn the page for
Common Core
activities to use in
your classroom.

COMMON CORE-ALIGNED ACTIVITIES

SL.K-2.2 Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud. Download the online activity page, read it aloud to students and then discuss it as a class. Ask: What was the problem that was keeping Logan awake in this story? What did Logan decide to do? How do you know? Why do you think that Logan made that choice? Do you agree or disagree with his decision? Why? What might you have done differently? What do you think happened next?

SL.K-2.1 Participate in collaborative conversations. Explain to students that what happened to the raccoon rescued from the storm grate is a good example of how trash can harm animals. Trash can hurt animals in many other ways: Water birds can get stuck in six-pack rings. Marine animals can swallow plastic bags or balloons floating in the water and die. Animals can get cut on broken glass, or get their heads stuck in jars. Spilled antifreeze tastes good to pets but is poisonous. Ask: What do we need to do to keep each of the above examples from happening? (Answers: Cut apart six-pack rings before disposing, use cloth bags instead of plastic ones for shopping, or recycle plastic bags. Don't let balloons loose. Recycle glass and plastic jars. Store antifreeze carefully and clean up any spills.)

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."



Critter Clues SL.K-2.2

Can your students 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.

KIND QUIZ

RL.K-2.1

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

- 1 If you were a snail, where would you most likely spend the cold winter? Under a rock or log curled up in my shell.
- 2 How did the raccoon get her head stuck in the storm grate? How could that have been avoided? She stuck her head in the grate to reach a piece of food. You can keep accidents like this from happening by throwing trash away in trash cans, not on the roadside.
- 3 True or false: It's ok to let your dog or cat play with holiday decorations. False. Chewing on holiday items such as tinsel, cords and giftwrap can harm pets.
- 4 Short-haired dogs, small dogs, older dogs and puppies should wear: a) sunglasses; b) a sweater; c) slippers; when taking walks in winter. b) a sweater

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!**