kind News™

Parents Guide

JR/SR EDITION • JUNE/JULY 2016

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

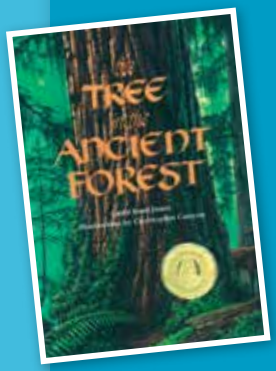
KIND TIME

BEING A GOOD ROLE MODEL in the community is the best defense against animal cruelty. Encourage children to set a good example in their neighborhoods by taking excellent care of their own pets—or helping out neighbors with their pets. Remind them to walk dogs on a leash, keep cats indoors and to make sure pets always have food, water, shelter and veterinary care. Children can also be a voice for animals by encouraging everyone to treat pets and wildlife with respect and kindness.

SOCK IT TO 'EM. Let's face it—socks have a habit of disappearing. No one knows where they go but drawers and dryers are home to millions of orphaned socks. Why not give your lonely, mismatched hosiery a new purpose? Your children can use them to create cat toys. Have them stuff a sock with cotton fiberfill (or another small sock) and add some catnip. Tie a knot in the ankle and—voila!—an instant cat toy. Make a bunch to give to your local animal shelter.

WHILE YOU'RE RUMMAGING through your closets, pull out some of your kids' old t-shirts. Brainstorm with your children clever slogans to encourage people to adopt or spay or neuter pets. Use fabric paint to write the slogans on the shirts. Every time your child wears one, folks will get the message.

BOOK NOOK



After your children have read "The Terrific Tree" in this issue, share with them *The Tree in the Ancient Forest*. Author Carol Reed-Jones's lyrical verse and Christopher Canyon's colorful illustrations guide readers as they explore life in an ancient forest and discover how the plants and animals depend upon a huge fir tree—and each other—for survival. Included at the back of the book is additional information about the "characters" portrayed in the book, as well as an explanation of what an ancient forest is and why they are important to all who share this planet.

...And more at *humanesociety.org/kindnews*

- Find more tips on safely traveling with pets
- Learn more about the effort to save right whales from extinction
- Print and share a hot car flyer to spread the word about the dangers of leaving pets in cars on warm days

A PUBLICATION OF
THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

ANSWER KEY

Critter Clues

FROM PAGE 7

Our mystery critter is a chipmunk, a member of the family of rodents that includes squirrels, prairie dogs and marmots. Chipmunks are found in most parts of North America. They live in underground burrows, which they continue to dig throughout their lives. Chipmunks feed on fruit, nuts, berries and seeds and are natural hoarders. Any food that won't spoil and is not immediately consumed is stored for later use. Their expandable cheeks allow them to carry four acorns in either cheek pouch and one between their teeth. Sometimes chipmunks forget about some piles of food, which may be hidden under leaves or dirt. Those nuts and seeds may eventually grow into new plants and trees. Snakes are chipmunks' worst enemies because they can follow them right into their burrows. Although chipmunks are not readily frightened by humans, they are wild animals and should never be kept as pets.

myHumane

Encourage your kids to put down the video games and help change the world for animals this summer! With the ***my*Humane** program it's easy to set up their own fundraising campaign, tell friends about the cause and ask for their support to help animals.

Lots of kids celebrate a big day such as a birthday or bar or bat mitzvah by asking for donations to The Humane Society of the United States instead of gifts. Some set up a lemonade stand; others round up sponsors when running a race or raise money to honor a pet or loved one. Whatever they choose, they'll be helping animals. You can even track the progress toward their fundraising goal on a personal webpage.

For details on how to start a fundraising campaign, visit ***myHumane.org***. Together, we can create a better world for animals.

Doing What's Right

FROM PAGE 7

P L A T E S
S U R V I V A L
S L O W L Y
M O U T H
B L U B B E R
C O R R E C T
T E E T H

P R E D A T O R S
R I G H T
P R E Y
H U M A N

Right whales are facing extinction. It's important that we **protect them.**

THIS PAGE: JOHN VAN DECKER/ALAMY

We would love to hear what you think about *Kind News* and how we can make it even better. We welcome comments and suggestions from our readers and their families. Email your thoughts to us at *kindnews@humanesociety.org.*

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KIND NEWS

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