

kind NEWS™

Parents Guide

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

KIND TIME

OUR STORY ABOUT THE MANATEES may open an important dialogue with your children about not exploiting wild animals for entertainment. Whether it's limiting boat speeds to protect manatees in their natural habitat or boycotting venues that showcase captive wild animals, it's important to respect the animals who share our world. Increasing numbers of consumers are speaking out against the use and abuse of animals in entertainment—with their voices as well as their pocketbooks.

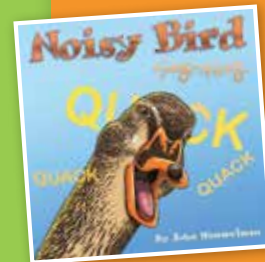
LOOKING FOR A RAINY DAY ACTIVITY? Have your kids recycle small odds and ends into musical wind chimes. They'll need a small, sturdy branch, thread and miscellaneous items to suspend from the branch to make a variety of sounds. These can include bottle caps, old spoons, washers, keys, sea glass and wooden spools. Secure each item with a length of thread and hang the chimes in a spot where it will catch a breeze. Can your children think of ways that wind helps animals and the environment? (Wind helps disperse thistle, seeds, pollen and mushroom spores. Spiders take advantage of breezes to "balloon" on a web thread to a new spot. Air currents also carry odors that help animals hunt—or avoid being hunted.)



...And more at humanesociety.org/kindnews

- ▶ Look for more games to create and play with cats
- ▶ Find additional information about animals used in entertainment and how you can help
- ▶ Learn more about the marvelous mole and creating a humane backyard

BOOK NOOK



The sound of birds singing and calling to one another is often just background noise for us as we go

about our busy lives. But you can focus kids' attention to the amazing songs, and sometimes weird sounds, that our feathered friends make by sharing with them *Noisy Birds Sing-Along* by John Himmelman. Colorful illustrations and phonetic descriptions of each bird's song will get kids excited about identifying the birds in their own neighborhood. The author provides information at the back of the book to help parents answer kids' questions about what they see and hear. Himmelman's suggestions for "Birdy Things to Do" will also enhance their birding experience.

A PUBLICATION OF



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
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CRITTER CLUES

Can your child guess the mystery critter?

- 1 I'm a fish without scales.
- 2 I have a long snout and a curled tail.
- 3 My father gave birth to me and hundreds of my brothers and sisters.
- 4 Some of my kind can change color to blend in with my environment.
- 5 I swim standing up.
- 6 Mom and Dad are mated for life.
- 7 Please don't dry me or buy me. Let me live free in my beautiful sea.

Our mystery critter is a seahorse. Although they lack a tail fin and scales, seahorses are true fish that live in shallow seas and breathe through their gills. Seahorse pairs often mate for life, greeting each other with a dance each day. It is the father who carries the mother's eggs in his pouch. Some species of sea horses give birth to hundreds of "fry" (babies) at once. Seahorses eat small fish and live crustaceans, sucking them up with their snouts. The main threats to their survival are pollution and overcollection. Every year, millions of seahorses are caught, dried and sold as souvenirs and "herbal remedies." Ask gift shop managers not to sell seahorses, starfish and other animals as decorations or toys.



ANSWERS

These Dads are Wild FROM PAGE 7

- 1 beaver
- 2 owl
- 3 Emperor penguin
- 4 fox
- 5 woodpecker



myHumane

Encourage your kids to put down the video games and help change the world for animals this summer! With the **myHumane** 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 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 marathon 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.

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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