

kind NewsTM JR.

Teacher Guide

SEPT/OCT 2019

RECOMMENDED FOR GRADES K-2

Welcome back to school with *Kind News*! In this issue, we focus on stories of people and animals helping each other. We'll explore what makes the bond between a boy and his service dog so special, and learn how some very dedicated people saved the lives of some tiny kittens just when they needed it the most. As a bonus, fish, bats, hamsters, and snakes all make an appearance!

Many of the activities in this guide are designed specifically to help your students communicate clearly, listen well, and cooperate with others, all part of the CASEL core competency: "Relationship Skills." Learn more at casel.org.

Looking for more ways to help your students build connection? Check out our empathy app, *The Restricted Adventures of Raja*, a bilingual, interactive series of book and game apps that includes questions and play-based learning that educators can use to help students practice the three steps needed for empathy.

Visit RedRover.org/empathyapp for more information.

***Kind News* may be gifted to classrooms through the generosity of sponsors.** We are grateful for their support and the work they do in local communities. If a sponsor is from your community, please take a moment to recognize their generosity when communicating to parents. **Thank you!**



To learn about our educational program for students or groups ages K-6 **visit our website at FWACC.ORG.**



Prince William SPCA is celebrating 12 years of sponsoring *Kind News* for classrooms in Prince William County, Manassas Park, and Manassas, Virginia.

To learn more about sponsoring classrooms with *Kind News*, email KindNews@RedRover.org.

FLIP OVER!

Turn the page for activities to use in your classroom that align to standards.

A PUBLICATION OF



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

COMMON CORE AND NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS ALIGNED ACTIVITIES



Kindergarten: NGSS K-ESS3-3. Communicate solutions that will reduce the impact of humans on the land, water, air, and/or other living things in the local environment.

After reading “Pet Corner: Are pet fish happy?”, ask students what kids need to be happy, healthy and safe. Make a list. Then, ask students where fish live when they are not pets. What do fish need to survive and be happy in their habitats? Is this different from what kids need? If so, how? Students may say that fish need clean water to live in; whereas, humans need clean air to breathe.

Ask students what they can do to help fish live happy lives. Help them think of ways they can reduce trash that pollutes oceans, lakes and rivers, such as reducing their plastic use, or cleaning up after themselves carefully after visiting a body of water. To extend the activity, look into whether there is a community clean-up in your area that the class could take part in or students could choose to go to with their families.

First grade: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.1.3. Write narratives in which they recount two or more appropriately sequenced events, include some details regarding what happened, use temporal words to signal event order, and provide some sense of closure.

After reading “Corbin & Zane: A Special Friendship,” ask students how Corbin acts as a friend to Zane. What does he do for him? Then, ask students to think about or imagine someone who helps them and is there for them. What does this person or animal do to help them? Accept responses and write down examples students give. Then, ask students to write about a time that a special person or animal (real or imagined) helped them and be sure to answer the following questions:

1. What did they need help with?
2. What specific things did the person or animal do for them?
3. How did they feel after being helped?

To extend the activity, visit RedRover.org/corbinblog and read Zane's essay about Corbin aloud to students. Then, challenge them to write the story of their own friend without revealing the friend's identity until the end, just like Zane did.

Second grade: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.4. Tell a story or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking audibly in coherent sentences.

After reading “Corbin & Zane: A Special Friendship,” ask students how they learned about Corbin (through Zane's descriptions in his interview with *Kind News*). Then, divide students into pairs to interview someone that they do not already know well. Brainstorm what they will need to ask their classmate in order to get to know them, such as favorite food, hobbies, who they live with, and whether they have any pets. Before having students begin their interviews, take time to go over practices for good listening. Give students time to interview each other and then report back to the class one interesting thing they learned about the other person. Afterwards, ask what they found easy about the experience. Challenging? Were they always comfortable talking about themselves or the other person? Why or why not?

BOOK NOOK



Rescue and Jessica

Written by Jessica Kensky and Patrick Downes

Journey through the imagined mind of a newly trained service dog whose life took a different path than he expected, and experience just how powerful the human-animal bond can be when he meets Jessica, a girl whose life is turning out differently than how she'd imagined it, too. Now Jessica needs Rescue by her side to help her accomplish everyday tasks. And it turns out that – together – they find a path forward, one step at a time.

Part of the RedRover Readers program. RedRover.org/books.

ANSWER KEY

Critter Clues FROM PAGE 6

Our mystery critter is the hamster. Hamsters were brought over to the U.S. in the 1930s from Syria. Although they are often kept as pets, in the wild they live in warm, dry areas such as the edges of deserts. They dig burrows with many tunnels for shelter during the hot days, and even create separate areas for eating and sleeping! 🐹 Hamsters are crepuscular and forage for food at dawn or dusk, living on a diet of fruit, vegetables, grass and seeds, which they carry to their burrows in their large cheek pouches.

Many people opt to get a 🐹 hamster as a pet because they are small animals—those kept as pets are typically 2-6 inches long. However, 🐹 hamsters are solitary animals and don't bond with humans easily. The fact that they sleep during the day makes bonding a challenge as well. They can often bite and don't typically make good pets for small children. People looking for a small pet may find a domestic rat to be a good companion, since rats are naturally social pack animals.

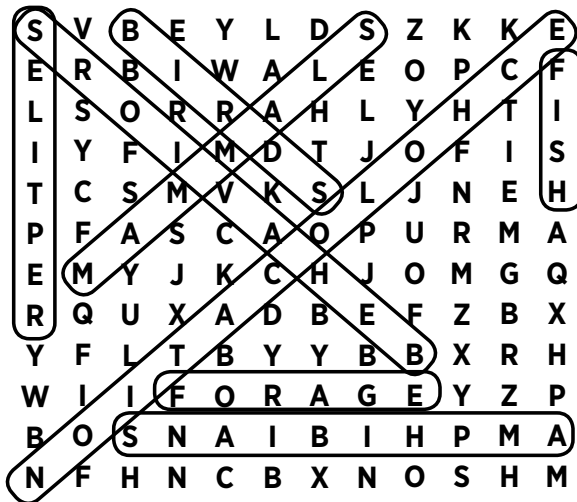
If you feel you're able to meet the specific needs of a 🐹 hamster, adopt one from a shelter or rescue. Be sure to get a wire-mesh cage and provide your hamster plenty of entertainment, such as an exercise wheel, ladder and toys such as toilet paper rolls, and provide many hard items for chewing. Ensure your 🐹 hamster gets fresh water and hamster mix that includes grains, fruits and vegetables. Allow him to run free outside his cage for a period each day in a safe area.

For more hamster care tips, visit www.asPCA.org.



Amazing Animals

CROSSWORD PUZZLE FROM PAGE 7



Pet Corner FROM PAGE 2



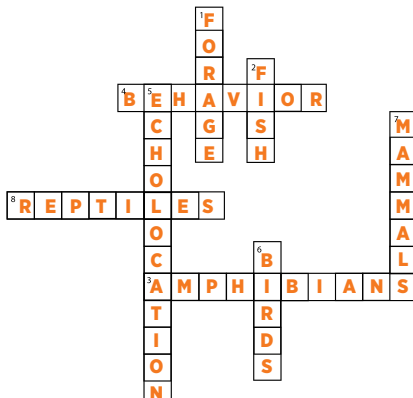
Where's Raja?

Raja is hiding on page 3!



Amazing Animals

WORD FIND PUZZLE FROM PAGE 7



- 1. FORAGE** to search for food
- 2. FISH** animals that have fins to move and gills to breathe, and they live in water
- 3. AMPHIBIANS** animals that spend part of their lives in water and part on land
- 4. BEHAVIOR** how one acts
- 5. ECHOLOCATION** a way of "seeing" that senses things with sound waves
- 6. BIRDS** animals that have feathers and wings
- 7. MAMMALS** animals that have fur or hair
- 8. REPTILES** animals that have scales and breathe with lungs



**...AND MORE
ONLINE!**

KindNews.org

Find lesson plans and more activities for your students, plus ideas for how students can help animals in your community. Subscribe to the magazine at home or learn how you can bring *Kind News, Jr.* to more classrooms.

RedRover.org/KindNewsFAQ

Find answers to your questions about subscribing to *Kind News, Jr.*

RedRover.org/Readers

Learn how to teach kids the 3 steps to empathy: recognize emotions, share emotions and regulate emotions, at a RedRover Readers online or in-person professional development workshop!

**kind
News**™



Teacher Guide

RECOMMENDED FOR GRADES K-2

***Kind News, Jr.* helps students learn about animals and think critically about their responsibilities towards the wellbeing of others, while practicing skills necessary for academic success.** The magazine encourages empathy and critical thinking in students and motivates students to take action to improve the lives of animals. *Kind News, Jr.* uses articles and short features to introduce issues affecting animals, how to understand animal behavior and how to care for pets. There are questions built into articles throughout the magazine. These questions can be used to guide whole- or small-group discussions with your students.

SUBSCRIPTION QUESTION?

We will be happy to help you. Please contact:

KindNewsSupport@RedRover.org
telephone: 1-877-902-9757 (toll free)

Did you know?

▶ Your local or school library can get a **FREE** single-copy subscription simply by visiting KindNews.org/subscribehome and entering promo code **LIBFREE18!**

KindNewsSupport@RedRover.org · KindNews.org

KIND NEWS

EDITOR, NICOLE FORSYTH; DESIGN CONSULTANT, SASS STUDIOS;
EDUCATION ADVISORS AND WRITERS, KARLY NOEL, HEIDI COLONNA, AMELIA SARIS
AND CATY FRANCO; SUBSCRIPTION SUPPORT, MINH-HAN LAM AND THE REDROVER TEAM

© REDROVER. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. *KIND NEWS* MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN ANY FORM WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM REDROVER. STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS MAY BE EDITED FOR READABILITY. THE CLASSROOM EDITION OF *KIND NEWS* IS PUBLISHED FIVE TIMES A YEAR, SEPTEMBER THROUGH MAY. A CLASSROOM SUBSCRIPTION, SUBSIDIZED BY CHARITABLE DONATIONS, IS AVAILABLE AT \$30 PER YEAR AND EACH ISSUE INCLUDES 28 COPIES OF *KIND NEWS* PLUS A TEACHER'S GUIDE. *KIND NEWS* IS ALSO AVAILABLE AS A SINGLE-COPY HOME SUBSCRIPTION, PUBLISHED FIVE TIMES A YEAR, INCLUDING A PARENT'S GUIDE, FOR \$10 PER SUBSCRIPTION.