

Kind News™

Teacher Guide

AUG/SEPT 2017

SENIOR EDITION
RECOMMENDED FOR GRADES 5-6

Welcome back to school and the first issue of *Kind News* published by RedRover! This issue features the first of an 8-part series on the emotional lives of cats and dogs, beginning with the behaviors cats display when they experience fear. Research shows that the ability to name emotional states is important to wellbeing. Discussing emotional states in animals provides an opportunity for students to discuss their own emotional states as well. This can be a great way to set the tone for the school year and help build a positive classroom culture.

 FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

A PUBLICATION OF

Bringing Animals from Crisis to Care

FLIP OVER!

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

Kind News may be gifted to classrooms through the generosity of sponsors. Many sponsors are local animal shelters and humane societies, and we are very grateful for their sponsorship, as well as their work in finding new homes for animals and other programs that benefit local communities.

Since kids love animals, and service learning opportunities have countless benefits, we encourage you to take advantage of programs your own local animal shelter may be able to provide your classroom if you don't already, or see if there are ways your school can work more closely with them. If one of our banner sponsors below is that organization, please let parents know of their generosity in your class or school newsletter. **Thank you!**



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



Sponsors bring *Kind News* to schools through the Adopt a Classroom program, but there are many other ways you can bring *Kind News* to your class or other classes at your school. **For fundraising ideas visit: RedRover.org/KindNews.**



COMMON CORE-ALIGNED ACTIVITIES

W.5-6.3, SL.1.1 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective techniques, descriptive details and clear event sequences. After students re-read “To the Rescue!” ask them to write a story about a time they have experienced the emotions (scared and brave) that Sheba experiences. Be as descriptive as possible and present clear information so the reader can understand what happened that made them feel scared and brave. Have the students get into pairs and share what they have written.

SL.5.1 Engage effectively in a collaborative discussion, building others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly. Create a chart on a board to compare and contrast the eyes, ears, mouth and body of when they feel scared. Then have the students discuss what they would do (or what they have done) if they came across people and cats displaying fear and why. To facilitate discussion, ask questions like “Does anyone think anything different?” “Tell me more about that?” “What does everyone else think (about a student comment)?” and “How would you feel if you were the scared person or cat being responded to?”

SL.5.1.C Pose and respond to specific questions by making comments that contribute to the discussion and elaborate on the remarks of others. In groups of three, ask students to revisit the story “Asher Opts to Adopt.” Prompt students to compare Asher’s actions to their own. Ask, “How are you similar and how are you different than Asher?” Share their reflections with their group. Ask and answer questions within their group.



BOOK NOOK

The Restricted Adventures of Raja, written by Nicole Forsyth and illustrated by Brian Huff, is an interactive graphic novel adventure app designed to help students understand emotional

states. The story can be read in English or Spanish, and the Spanish version has text to audio. Information about animal behavior and discussion questions are built into the app, and there’s a game called Animal Watch to help kids practice what they’ve learned.

Download this app for free on iTunes or Google Play.

ANSWER KEY



Critter Clues FROM PAGE 6

Our mystery critter is a horse. Horses 🐎 are large, hooved mammals. Most horses are domestic, meaning they are tame and people typically take care of them, but there are feral populations of horses in various parts of North America. 🐎 Feral horses live like wild animals and do not typically have people to take care of them. The only truly wild horse, not domesticated, that exists in the world is the endangered Przewalski's horse. Przewalski's horse was saved from the brink of extinction and reintroduced successfully to the wild in Mongolia. 🐎 Some people call a horse a companion animal, more like a pet, and others call horses farm animals, more like an animal humans use for food or fiber or to do work. Ask your students if they think horses are pets or farm animals and why. Lots of horses are available to adopt just like other companion animals, but even more goes into the decision to adopt a horse. 🐎 Horses need other horses for companionship because they are herd animals and very social. Also, horses need shelter and a lot of space, and it can cost between \$200 and \$325 each month to feed and take care of one horse.

What would you do if you saw this cat?

FROM PAGE 7



Ask students how they think the cat feels in the picture. Then ask what they would do if they saw a scared cat and they wanted to try to be friends.

The cat is displaying fear behavior, so trying to pet or play with a scared cat would not be good answers.

The best answer if someone wanted to try becoming friends with this cat is A.

B is also appropriate, but does not include an attempt at friendship.

You can also ask students what they think might happen if they tried to pet this cat or waved around a cat toy.

Kindness Questions

FROM PAGE 8

When students have finished reading this issue of *Kind News* ask them to turn to the questions on page 8 and work in pairs to discuss their answers.

Animal Emotions

Having students understand and practice identifying the emotional states of animals and people is a great foundation for empathy and positive relationships inside and outside the classroom. Download the free interactive graphic novel and game app, *The Restricted Adventures of Raja*, and use it in your classroom! The app is available in iTunes and Google Play and can be played in English or Spanish. A lesson plan to go with the app is also available to download at RedRover.org/ebook.

THE NOTEBOOK

Pick an animal in your home or community to observe. Sit comfortably and watch the animal you've chosen. Write down everything the animal does. What behaviors do you see? Did you come up with any questions or hypotheses about the behavior while you were watching?



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RedRover.org/Youth

Download the Kindness Pledge. Find more ideas for how your students can help animals in your community.

RedRover.org/Readers

Get more book ideas and learn about the RedRover Readers online social and emotional learning training for teachers. The RedRover Readers program uses stories and discussion strategies to help students practice the skills needed for empathy. Go to RedRover.org/ebook to learn about our newest RedRover Readers app and download the lesson plan.



Teacher Guide

SENIOR EDITION: RECOMMENDED FOR GRADES 5-6

Kind News helps children understand and respect animals and think about why treating animals and people with kindness matters.

The magazine encourages both empathy and critical thinking in children by celebrating the human-animal bond and helping to motivate children to take action to improve the lives of animals. *Kind News* uses engaging articles and short features to emphasize issues affecting animals, how to understand animal behavior and how to care for pets. Its appealing design and interactive content help enhance children's enjoyment of reading, as well as spark critical thinking and thoughtful discussion.

SUBSCRIPTION QUESTION?

We will be happy to help you. Please contact:

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KIND NEWS

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