

To the  
**RESCUE!**

RedRover Responders volunteers are trained to help dogs like Trooper feel less scared after they have been rescued.



## Meet Trooper

When Kimberley Ortiz first met the black and tan puppy she named Trooper, he didn't jump up or roll over at her feet. "He cowered in the back of his crate," she says. The frightened pup had been living with 45 other dogs in a small mobile home in Arkansas. His guardian had run out of dog food, and the animals were fighting over scraps.

As a RedRover Responders volunteer, Ms. Kimberley's job was to take care of Trooper after his rescue. Giving him food and water was easy. But how would she get him

to come out to exercise and play? She decided that what Trooper was telling her with his body—curving his back and looking away—was that he just needed some time to himself.

Little by little, Trooper came closer and closer to Ms. Kimberley. She saw him play with a toy for the first time! And one day, he walked over and nudged her. "He came out of his shell," she says, "and didn't want to leave my arms!" Trooper became a wriggling, affectionate puppy who was ready to go up for adoption at a shelter in Tennessee.

## Kind Questions ?

Now that you've read *Kind News*, challenge yourself with these questions.

1. Why do you think Trooper was so scared?
2. When do you feel scared?
3. Why do you think Ms. Kimberley waited until Trooper came to her?

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RedRover Responders volunteers take care of animals rescued from cruelty situations and natural disasters. To learn more, visit [RedRover.org/Responders](http://RedRover.org/Responders).



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# kind News

2017  
SENIOR  
OCT-NOV

Lollipops  
Save Lives?  
p. 3

Meet  
Trooper  
p. 8

**HAPPY**  
and You  
Know It!

**DOG**  
Emotions

A PUBLICATION OF





# inside THIS ISSUE:



4

Animal  
emotions:  
Fear in dogs



6

The amazing  
world



8

Meet Trooper

3 Humane Hero

6 Critter Clues

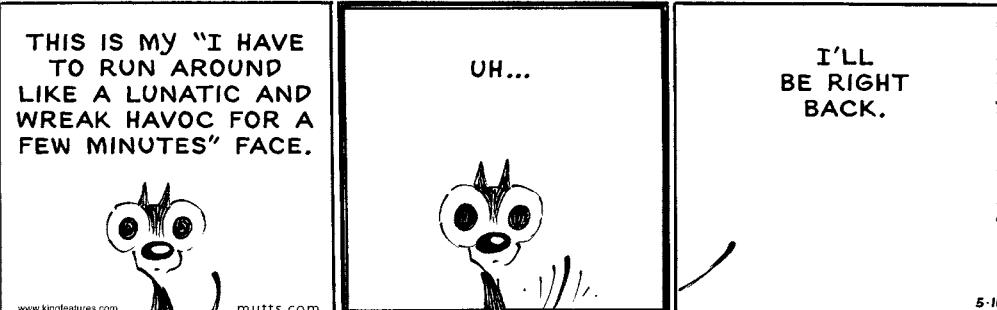
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Restricted Adventures  
of Raja* app, hidden  
in *Kind News*.



## MUTTS

by  
Patrick McDonnell

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## PET CORNER



## Do you have free-roaming cats in your community?

### What are the differences between a pet cat, a stray cat, and a feral cat?

Stray cats are used to people and may have had a home at one time, but they are now living on their own. Often stray cats are brought to animal shelters and adopted out to new families as pets. Feral cats live on their own, too, but they most likely were born outside and have never lived in a home, so they are afraid of people.

### How can you help free-roaming cats in your community?

If you have cats, ask your family to make sure they are spayed or neutered, so they can't have kittens. Cats **reproduce**, or give birth to **offspring**, very quickly, which puts wildlife at risk and often means more cats suffer. Make your home inviting to cats by playing with them and providing toys. It will make them less likely to want to roam. Outside is not the best place for a cat, and without proper nutrition and medical care, they may suffer needlessly.

Consider adopting your next cat from a shelter, and check out the book *Nobody's Cats: How One Little Black Kitty Came in from the Cold* by Valerie Ingram and Alistair Schroff for a heartwarming story about community cats and ways you can help.

*Nobody's Cats* is a book used in the RedRover Readers program. Visit [RedRover.org/Readers](http://RedRover.org/Readers) for more book ideas and to learn more about this program, where kids listen to stories and each other and practice the skills needed for empathy.



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## HUMANE HERO



# Lollipops to the Rescue!

### If you could save a pet, would you?

When Ms. Anika Swisher-Shukuya asked this question to her third-graders at Westmore Oaks Elementary in West Sacramento, California, they got right to work! Hundreds of dollars were needed for animals with urgent medical problems. Through RedRover's On-Call Angels program, the students could be heroes for a pet guardian who couldn't afford a costly, unexpected vet bill.

The class launched a school-wide lollipop sales project called "Pops for Pups." For \$1, any student could buy a lollipop or send a "puppigram"—a lollipop with a message attached—to a friend in school on the week of Valentine's Day. Some of Ms. Anika's students made posters for the hallway to advertise the sales. Others ran order forms and lollipops to different classrooms. And some

attached tags explaining the project to each pop. When they counted the money at the end, it totaled \$680!

RedRover staff visited Ms. Anika's class to accept the check and talk about the animals who would benefit from the students' hard work. Because they raised so much, they could help two animals! The money paid for surgery for a cat named Captain Jorge who broke his leg and for a puppy named Pisto to be treated for a disease called parvovirus. The students knew they had saved the day when they received thank-you notes and updates from the animals' guardians. What else did they get for their work? "A sense of community..." says third-grader Alexis, "and it was just a fun experience to help fundraise."



**Tell us** how you've  
been **helping** animals!

Send photos and details, along with an email address and phone number, to [KindNews@RedRover.org](mailto:KindNews@RedRover.org) or to:

**HUMANE HEROES c/o Kind News, RedRover**  
PO Box 188890, Sacramento, CA 95818



**CAN YOU TELL  
WHEN A DOG IS**

**HAPPY**

**OR**

**SCARED?**



Have you ever wanted to hide under your bed when you were scared? When animals feel the emotion of fear, it triggers a “fight or flight” response. This means they may look like they are trying to hide or escape. They may try to make themselves look smaller. But they may sometimes do the opposite if they feel threatened. When they feel they need to fight, they may make themselves look big and tough. Because of this, fearful dogs could be dangerous and are more likely to bite, so never approach a dog who looks scared.



## How can you tell when a dog is scared?

A scared dog may lean her body away from you. She may hunch her back, tuck her tail between her legs, and lower her head. She may also avert her gaze, or look away from you, and show the whites of her eyes. This is called **whale eye**.

If a dog feels threatened, her first act may be to snarl or pull back her lips very slightly, which pushes her whiskers forward. This is called an **antagonistic pucker**. Most people miss this behavior, and this is how some dog bites happen. If a dog feels scared and feels the need to flee or escape but can't, like when tied up on a chain or on leash, they are also more likely to resort to fight mode and growl, bark, or bite.

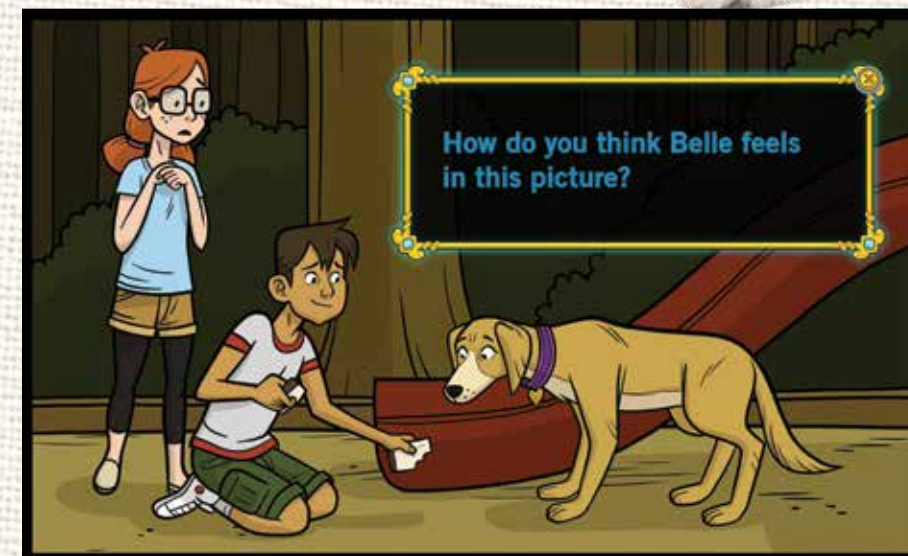
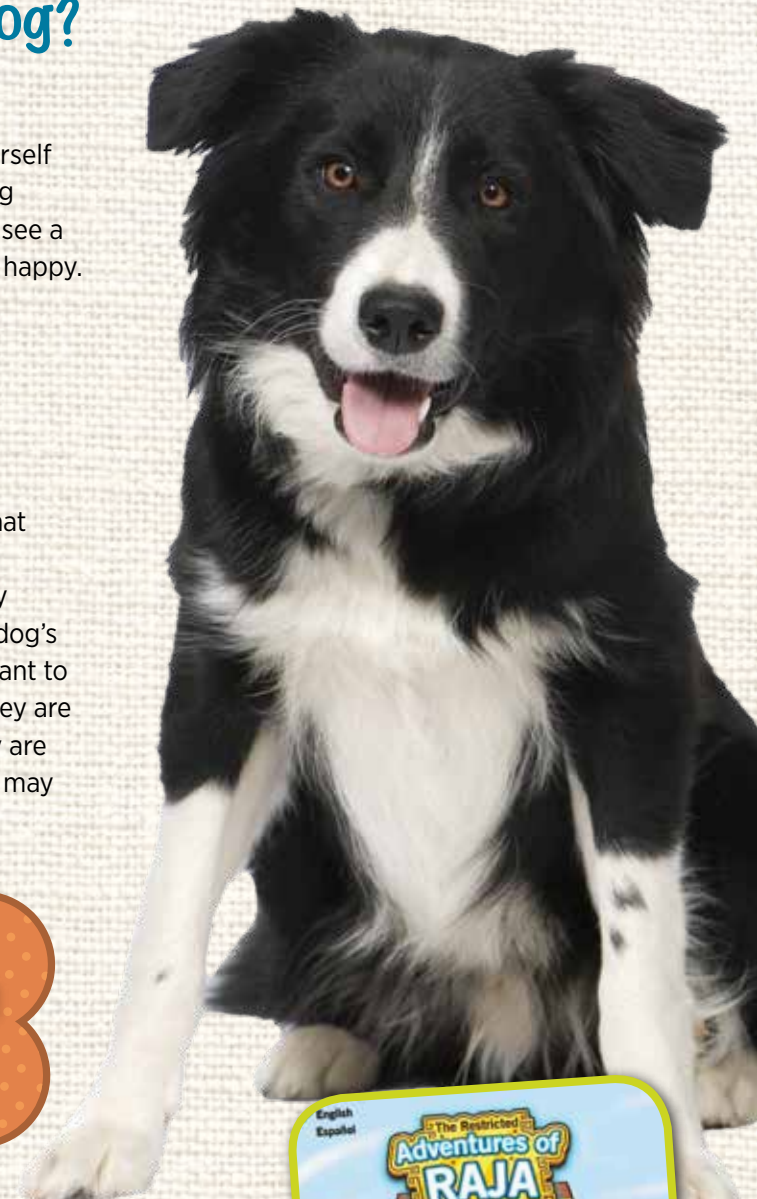
## Can you calm a scared dog?

Yes! Just like people, dogs respond to calming tones of voice and reassurance. You can communicate to a scared dog that you are not a threat. If you make yourself appear small by kneeling down, moving slowly, talking softly, and avoiding direct eye contact, you will often see a dog transform right before your eyes, from scared to happy.

## What does a happy dog look like?

A happy dog's body will look relaxed. Her mouth will be open and her tail will gently wag. Regardless of what mood you think a dog is in, never pet someone's dog without permission! Avoid moving your hands or body in ways that could be threatening, like directly over a dog's head or back. Sometimes dogs are scared and they want to run away but they can't. Sometimes this is because they are tied on a chain or on a leash. When this happens, they are more likely to feel the need to fight. This is when they may growl, bark, or bite.

For more on dog behavior, visit [RedRover.org/KindNews](http://RedRover.org/KindNews).



Do you want to learn more about emotions in dogs and cats? Download *The Restricted Adventures of Raja* app for free! The app is available in the Apple App Store or Google Play.





# Attracting FEMALES



## Want to get the attention of the ladies?

Male bowerbirds show female bowerbirds that they know how to work hard by making a beautiful nest, fit for a queen!

Do you see humans doing anything like this to get the attention of someone they like?

Lots of male birds have colorful feathers that grab the attention of female birds. Scientists believe that the healthier the male, the brighter his feathers, and that females prefer these males. Through evolution, what helps the healthiest birds produce offspring, or babies, is more likely to keep happening. How might a scientist set up an experiment to test this idea?

Not all male birds have colorful feathers, however. How else might a male bird show a female bird that he is healthy and would make a good mate? The all-black male bowerbird works really hard to collect bright or pretty things, and decorates his nest!

## CURIOSITY CORNER

Find out what other birds collect objects.



## Fun FACT

Lots of birds, both males and females, are attracted to bright, shiny objects, and sometimes they give objects as gifts to other birds or even to humans. In one touching news story, a group of crows collected items and gave them to a girl who had been so kind as to feed them for years. The girl, who considered the crows very special friends, collected the items and displayed them proudly. **Have you ever had a collection? If so, what did you collect and why?**

## CRITTER CLUES

- I am an **omnivore**. I eat plants and animals, like berries, insects, acorns, and reptiles.
- You can tell whether I am a male or female by my poop!
- I can purr like a cat.
- I am MUCH smarter than people commonly think I am.
- I can fly up to 55 miles per hour.
- I am very nervous if I am separated from my flock.
- The male of my species is called a **"gobbler"**

## DIY Thanksgiving Project "Fill with Thanks" Gratitude Jars

- Using paint, permanent marker, or stickers, write "Fill with Thanks" on a glass or clear plastic container. Decorate it with your friends, the people and animals you appreciate and love in your life—including classmates, family, pets, and animals in your community.
- Cut paper—multicolor if available—into about 30 rectangles about 2" X 3" in size.
- Each day starting November 1, use one paper to write a short thank-you to a friend, person, or animal you care about. Examples: Isabelle, Thank you for picking up my dropped book. Birds outside, Thank you for cheering up my morning.
- Fold the paper in half and draw a picture of the friend on the top flap.
- Watch the jar fill up with gratitude for the friends around you! On Thanksgiving, you can use it as a table centerpiece. Or, string your thank-you's together for a wall or doorway decoration.
- Take photos of your project—We may feature them in a future issue of *Kind News*!

Send high resolution photos and details to [KindNews@RedRover.org](mailto:KindNews@RedRover.org) or mail to:  
RedRover  
PO Box 188890  
Sacramento, CA 95818



Draw a line from each picture to three words that describe it.

May be friendly

Nervous

Happy

Frightened

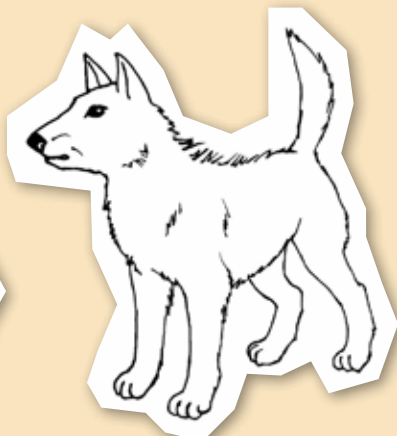
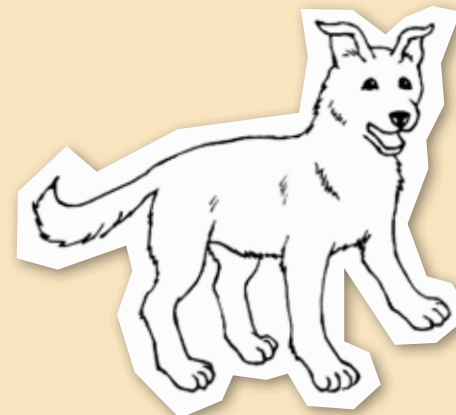
Leave Alone

"Angry"

Relaxed

Stay Away

Threatening



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**ANSWER:** BECAUSE SHE WANTED TO BE ON TIME.