

kind News™

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PLANET parrot



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? Where's Raja?
Find Raja, from *The
Restricted Adventures
of Raja* app, hidden
in *Kind News*.

Cover image:
A Blue and Yellow Macaw

THE RESTRICTED ADVENTURES OF **RAJA** BOOK 3 RELEASES MARCH 28TH!

Download my app, "Raja Book 3," to read the final conclusion to my adventure, and play the game "Jarbo's Jinx." As you read, test yourself on how well you can understand animal behavior and emotions. The more you learn in the book, the better you will do in the game.



Below is a sneak peek of an early ink illustration from Raja Book 3 before the color was added. How do you think Rocky feels in this illustration? How do you think the girl, Meg, feels? What choices do you have when you find a **stray** cat who has been abandoned or is lost?

In the game Jarbo's Jinx, Jarbo has invaded my planet and turned Ionian warriors into animals. I need your help to turn them back into warriors!



Think you know your emotions? Download my book and game apps, "Raja Book 1" and "Raja Book 2" and test yourself!

MUTTS

by
Patrick McDonnell

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A WALLACE *Welcome*

In the spring of 2017, Brian Wallace found a duck swimming in his family's inground pool in Folsom, California. She must have had a nest in the yard because soon, a line of 12 **ducklings** was following her around the yard! They were messy. They took over the pool. The Wallaces let them stay, anyway!

Mr. Wallace named the mother Daisy. He set up a ramp to help the tiny ducklings out of the pool, and covered the skimmer so they wouldn't get stuck. Thirteen-year-old Cole and nine-year-old Claire named each one, but then couldn't tell them apart. Mr. Wallace called them the "Dirty Dozen" because of all the droppings they left.

"I enjoyed sitting out in the yard watching the ducks," said Mrs. Wallace. "I would count them from the kitchen window to make sure they were all there." One afternoon, she watched them follow Daisy up the steps of the slide and come down, dropping into the water one by one! "I had never

gotten so close to one," said Claire, who played her ukulele for the duck family from the side. "They grow very fast and are very entertaining to watch," added Cole. "Each day they seemed to learn something new."

After two weeks, Daisy and her ducklings were ready to leave the nesting area. "I felt good about giving Daisy a safe place to start her family," said Mr. Wallace. The Wallaces learned that ducks often return each spring to the same nesting place. Last spring, they had guests again: a female with five new ducklings!

#Spreadkindnews CAMPAIGN!

RedRover is launching a #SpreadKindNews Campaign! We're on a national search for positive stories like the ones featured in *Kind News*! Nominate a kind kid, and you could both win amazing prizes! Visit redrover.org/spreadkindnews to learn more.





PLANET PARROT

Most parrots stay within their area of the world all year long. Only two species of parrots **migrate**: the Swift Parrot and the Orange-Bellied Parrot.



Orange-Bellied Parrot



Lovebirds!

In warm places around the world live about 350 kinds of curved-beaked birds of the parrot family. From the little Madagascar Lovebird to the large, cherry red, yellow, and blue Scarlet Macaw in Mexico, they're all beautiful, musical, and smart.



PARROTS AS PETS?

Over time, large numbers of parrots have been taken from the wild and sold as pets. Others are born and raised in **captivity**. A pet parrot is a big job. They need lots of fresh fruits and veggies, and are sensitive to drafts and household products like air fresheners. They get bored quickly and often destroy things. Because they have to scream to flock-mates miles away in the forest, the birds can be as loud as a siren! And they live a long time, from eight years for a parakeet to up to 60 for a White-Crested Cockatoo!



TREE TROUBLE

Another threat to parrots is **deforestation**, or the clearing of trees where they live and raise young. Once thought to have disappeared, a group of Blue-Throated Macaws was discovered in the northern part of Bolivia, a country in South America. They make their nests in large, hollowed-out trees. But trees have been cut down for cattle ranching, preventing the birds from having chicks and growing their families.

Donations help, too. ABC is raising funds to build **nesting boxes** for Blue-Throated Macaws on smaller trees that are still standing. So far, it's working. With the help of the artificial nests, 76 birds have taken flight!

PARROT PALS

"Wild parrots need all the help and support they can get," says Mike Parr of the American Bird Conservancy (ABC). What can young people do? "You can share what you learn...," he says, "and encourage your friends to choose another pet option." Parr says that seeing wild parrots where they live is the best way to appreciate them. "They deserve to fly freely and be in their natural habitat. Parrots are also social birds that thrive when able to live with a **flock** made up of their family and friends." Visiting a zoo that is set up to provide all the care a parrot needs is another option. Families who decide to get a pet parrot should do their homework, and make sure the parrot was captive-bred and not stolen from the wild.

Vanessa Deleon from Ms. Koller's 5th grade class asked us this great question,

"Why do dogs
TILT
their heads?"



Can all birds fly?

Look up the answer or read Curiosity Corner in the next issue of *Kind News*!



Have you ever noticed a dog looking at you with her head leaned sideways? Ms. Koller and her 5th-grade class have, so they asked *Kind News* if we could find out why.

Turns out, head-tilting is a form of **dog body language**, how dogs talk using their bodies instead of words. Dogs most likely tilt their heads to hear better, to see better, and to show emotions.

Hearing

Some think head-tilting helps dogs listen closely to what we're saying. They are most likely listening for words or tones of voice they recognize.

Seeing

Head-tilting could help dogs see us better, especially if they have a long snout!

Showing emotions

It might also be a way dogs show their emotions. Sometimes dogs tilt their heads when confused, curious, or want attention.

When do you notice that dogs lean their heads to the side?



Bird BASICS

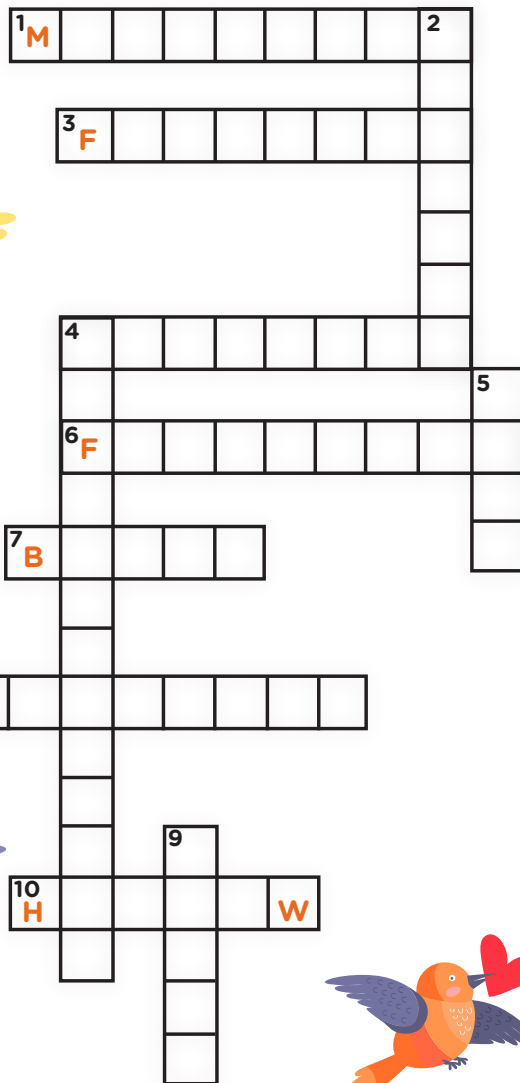
Birds are fascinating to watch! Maybe it is because they are not mammals like us. Maybe it is because there are so many different kinds of birds with all kinds of different behaviors. Either way, watching birds is fun and is something anyone can do because birds are everywhere! Complete this crossword to learn more about birds (go back to the articles about birds and look for some clues in bold!). If you want to learn how to recognize birds that are likely nearby, visit KindNews.org and download our Beginner's Guide to Bird Watching.

Across

1. when birds fly to new places at a certain time of year
3. all birds have these and sometimes they are brightly colored
4. a baby duck
6. a young bird who is learning to leave the nest
7. people feed this to birds but it is terrible for them to eat
8. raising or keeping wild animals in zoos or other enclosed areas
10. birds' wings are _____, which makes them light and allows them to fly.

Down

2. birds do this with soft material they collect before they lay eggs
4. removing trees from natural areas, a threat to many animals
5. what baby birds hatch from
9. a group of birds



Do you want to attract birds to your backyard this spring? Try leaving out some nesting material on a shrub or in the branches of a tree. Try leaving strips of paper, cotton balls or twine. Avoid materials with plastic, chemicals or dyes.

CRITTER CLUES

WHAT AM I?

- 1 My name comes from the red stripes behind my ears and how I slide into the water in response to danger.
- 2 I am an **omnivore** and eat small fish and **aquatic vegetation** (water plants) in the wild.
- 3 When I am full-grown, I can be up to 12 inches, longer than most other animals of my type.
- 4 I live in marshes, lakes, ponds, and slow-moving rivers.
- 5 I use my **caruncle**, also called an "egg tooth," to hatch out of my egg.
- 6 Instead of teeth, I have horny ridges on my jaws that help me eat.
- 7 My predators include foxes, raccoons and other medium-sized animals.

ANSWER: A DEER

To the **RESCUE!**

Mike Morrelly (right), a wildlife biologist, and Jack Bonafini, a wildlife technician, releasing one of two fledgling bald eagles on the Quaboag River in Brookfield, MA, July 23, 2018, after the birds received care for their injuries.



Meet Eaglet #16/B

Last June, a West Brookfield, Massachusetts man found a young Bald Eagle on his lawn. He called the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife). When the officials arrived, they found a band on the eaglet's leg that said “#16/B.” MassWildlife scientists had tagged the bird and her siblings in a nearby nest in the spring. Because Eaglet #16/B was thin, weak, and clearly hurt, they drove her to the Tufts Wildlife Clinic at Cummings Veterinary Medical Center at Tufts University.

Unfortunately, the Clinic's director, Dr. Florina Tseng, sees injured eaglets every year. “The Clinic receives an average of 3 to 5 fledgling eagles following injuries from early flight attempts,” she says. The young eagles—who don't have the white markings adults

do—first try short flights to low branches and the ground below their nests. Sometimes, they end in a crash. The young **fledglings** are also more at-risk for all kinds of dangers, like free-roaming pets, other animals, or human activity.

It took Eaglet #16/B three weeks to heal from a break in her keel (breast) bone. In the Clinic's flight barn, veterinarians made sure she could fly and land well. Then, MassWildlife officials opened the door to her crate and watched her fly above the banks of the Quaboag River, not far from where she was found.



Kind Questions ?

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

1. Injured or hurt animals that are rescued from the wild and returned to the wild when they are better are usually not named, but are given numbers instead. Why do you think people choose not to give wild animals names?
2. Two articles in this issue of *Kind News* talk about how much better it is for wild animals to stay in the wild. Do you agree or disagree, and why?
3. What choices do you have when you find a lost or injured wild animal? What about a lost or injured stray animal who is friendly toward people?



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