

Kind News™

Teacher Guide

MARCH/APRIL 2019 | RECOMMENDED FOR GRADES 3-6

Welcome Spring! We celebrate the season with a happy tale about some ducks who found a nest in what turned out to be just the right place. We explore the fascinating world of parrots and the issues that impact them. We'll answer a burning question from one student about dog body language and what it may indicate about a dog's emotions, and hear how an eaglet was rescued after a tough fall.

Do you know a kid who is a hero? Tell us the story, and you could win big prizes! RedRover is launching a **#SpreadKindNews** Campaign to bring *Kind News* magazine to more students and to share positive stories of people being kind. We're on a national search for positive stories worth spreading—and one ultimate do-gooder will win the *Kind News* Humane Hero award and be featured on the cover of *Kind News*!

Nominate a kind kid by May 15th, and you could both win amazing prizes! Go to redrover.org/spreadkindnews to learn more.



A PUBLICATION OF



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

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 10 years of sponsoring *Kind News* for classrooms in Prince William County, Manassas Park, and Manassas, Virginia.



Spay Neuter Network's North Texas Education Initiative alleviates pet overpopulation by educating future pet owners about responsible pet ownership. Learn more at www.spayneuternet.org

FLIP OVER!

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

COMMON CORE AND NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS ALIGNED ACTIVITIES



Third grade: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.3: Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text, using language that pertains to time, sequence, and cause/effect. After reading “Planet Parrot,” ask students what two things have caused problems for parrots (being taken from the wild for pets, trees being cut down that they use for their nests). Ask them to choose one of the two problems and summarize it using language for cause and effect relationships, for example:

“For many years, parrots have been taken from the wild and sold as pets. This has caused distress to many captive parrots and caused there to be less parrots in the wild.”

“Over a long period of time, trees where parrots make their nests have been cut down. This has caused them not to be able to have offspring.”

To extend the activity, allow time for students to map out the activities visually, such as with a graphic organizer you provide or they create. Ask students if they can think of more examples where animals have been affected by actions of humans. What ideas do they have to decrease the negative effects of human activity on animals in these cases?

Fourth grade: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences. After reading “A Wallace Welcome,” ask students what techniques they think the author used to make the article interesting to read (descriptive details, clear event sequences, and quotations). Then, have students interview each other about something kind they have done for people or animals. When did the person being interviewed do the kind act, and who did they do it for? How did they feel about doing it, and what specific parts of it do they remember most? Then, ask students to use the interview to develop a news story using “A Wallace Welcome” as a model. To help them with the editing process, ask students to color-code each writing technique they use (such as dialogue, sensory details, or transition words) with a highlighter. To extend the activity, students could publish their articles in a class kindness newsletter or share/act out their articles in small groups. ***Visit redrover.org/spreadkindnews to learn about our #SpreadKindNews contest and search for a humane hero!***

Fifth grade: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.4: Report on a topic or text or present an opinion, sequencing ideas logically and using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes; speak clearly at an understandable pace. After reading “Why do dogs tilt their heads?” ask students to brainstorm some questions about animals. Encourage them to ask questions that answer “why” or “how” rather than “yes” or “no.” Give them time to come up with a list of questions and have them choose one they are most interested in to research more about and share their findings with the class. Students should include at least three details from their research and cite their sources. To extend the activity, ask students to enhance their presentations by creating visuals or videos that support the facts they found.

Sixth Grade: NGSS MS-LS2-1: Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence for the effects of resource availability on organisms and populations of organisms in an ecosystem. After reading “Planet Parrot,” discuss with students how deforestation has affected parrot populations in the wild. Bring up the fact that many species of parrots are endangered. Ask students how they feel about this. Allow class time for students to pick one endangered or threatened animal and how the animal has been affected by resource scarcity. Students should answer the following questions:

What resource does the animal need to survive that it is not getting enough of?

What has caused the scarcity of the resource?

What was the animal’s population before the resource began to decrease? What is it now?

What can humans do to reverse or slow the loss of the resource that the animal needs?

If the resource is used by humans, are there any alternatives humans could use instead?

ANSWER KEY



Critter Clues FROM PAGE 7

Our mystery critter is the RED-EARED SLIDER TURTLE!

It gets its name from the red stripes behind its ears and from its tendency to quickly slide off rocks or logs into the water at any sign of danger. Red-eared sliders live in warm areas with calm water, such as swamps or slow-moving lakes or rivers. 🐢 They are cold-blooded and often crawl out of the water to get warm

or lay their eggs. The gender of their babies depends on the temperature of the nest!

🐢 Like other reptiles, they don't hibernate, but decrease their activity level instead, spending the winter at the bottom of the body of water where they live. Native to the southern United States and northern Mexico, sliders have now spread across the world due to their popularity as pets. 🐢 To survive well, turtles need a lifetime of special care, but since most people aren't able to provide it, many die when they are kept in captivity. Because they're often released into the wild when people no longer want to keep them, they are considered one of the world's 100 most invasive species: when released, they will either die or take over the habitat of the native species.

Where's Raja? Raja is hiding on page 4!



Raja Book 3 FROM PAGE 2

1. How do you think Rocky feels in this illustration from "Raja Book 3"?

Possible answers: Scared, cautious, nervous, hesitant; alert or interested in the girl.

2. How do you think the girl, Meg, feels?

Possible answers: Concerned, determined, sympathetic, helpful, conscious, responsible

3. What choices do you have when you find a stray cat who has been abandoned or is lost?

Possible answers: Put up "Lost Cat" posters near where you found the cat. Post the cat's picture on social media or in online neighborhood communities. Report the cat to your local animal shelter or animal control agency and see if anyone has reported a missing cat that fits the description. If no one claims the cat, consider spaying or neutering the cat if needed, find the cat a new home, bring the cat to an animal shelter or take care of the cat as a free-roaming community cat.

BOOK NOOK

Raja Book 3

Recommended for ages 8 and up

"Raja Book 3" is a great tool for social and emotional learning. Download the app and project on a screen in your classroom. Read together and have a discussion to promote emotion recognition, social awareness and self-awareness using questions within the app.



Bird Basics FROM PAGE 7



1. Migration

2. Nesting

3. Feathers

4. Duckling (across)

4. Deforestation
(down)

5. Eggs

6. Fledgling

7. Bread

8. Captivity

9. Flock

10. Hollow



**...AND MORE
ONLINE!**

KindNews.org

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

RedRover.org/KindNewsFAQ

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

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!



Teacher Guide

RECOMMENDED FOR GRADES 3-6

***Kind News* helps students learn about animals and think critically about their responsibilities towards the wellbeing of others.**

The magazine encourages empathy and critical thinking in students and motivates students to take action to improve the lives of animals. *Kind News* 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:

KindNews@icnfull.com

telephone: 877.902.9757 (toll free) fax: 215.788.6887

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KIND NEWS

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