



San Diego Humane Society's Critter Kids NEWS

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Welcome to San Diego Humane Society's Critter Kids News. We hope you have fun learning all about pets and wildlife in San Diego!

Campus locations in El Cajon, Escondido, Oceanside, Ramona and San Diego

619-299-7012
sdhumane.org



Shelter Mews

Did you know San Diego Humane Society cares and finds homes for more than just dogs, cats, small pets and farm animals?

We also care for exotic animals such as reptiles, birds and fish! Each of these animals requires special care that meets their unique needs, so it is important to do your research before choosing an exotic animal as a pet. Bearded dragons need ultraviolet and infrared lights to stay warm. Parakeets are flock birds and prefer to have a bird companion to stay happy. Goldfish require a large tank (75-100 gallons) with caves, rocks and plants for enrichment, not just a bowl. They also need a water filter and regular tank cleaning to stay happy and healthy. San Diego has several exotic animal rescues to choose from, so it is best to start your search with them or an animal shelter if you are looking to add an exotic pet to your family.



Wildlife Window

Many exotic pet species are also found in the wild.

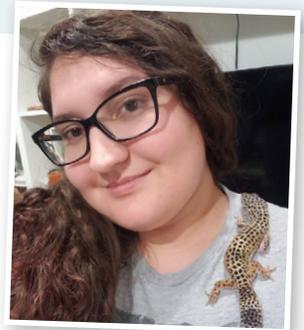


It is important to remember that you should never take an animal from the wild and make them your pet. These animals have all their specific needs met in their environment. San Diego is home to a variety of reptiles such as rosy boa snakes, coast horned lizards and western pond turtles. Copper, a 16-year-old male rosy boa, lives at our Ramona Campus in our Project Wildlife program. Though rosy boas are native to California, Copper was born in captivity, so he was not able to be released back into the wild. He lives with his best friend, Astrid, a corn snake with dark spots. They are pictured here snuggled together!

Meet Our Staff

Meet Kaylin

Kaylin is a veterinarian assistant at San Diego Humane Society. She works closely with the veterinarians to give medical treatment to the animals in our care. Not only does she help cats and dogs, but she also works with exotics, such as snakes and lizards! San Diego Humane Society is seeing an increase of reptiles and amphibians come into the shelter, so we are lucky to have someone as knowledgeable as Kaylin to care for them. She helps educate our staff and the public about the special care they require and the many things exotic pets need to thrive and be happy. Kaylin loves being able to help reptiles on their journey from being sick or injured to being healthy and finding a new home!





Lend a Paw



Make a hanging wood chew for a bird or small animal in our care, or check out our wish list and collect and donate some items that help us care for exotic pets: sdhumane.org/wishlist.

Hanging Wood Chew Instructions

Materials:

- Sisal rope.
- Scissors.
- Untreated wood pieces with edges (squares, rectangles, etc.).
- Drill (if wood pieces don't have holes).
- Optional items: popsicle sticks, untreated wicker, cardboard, raffia, bells.

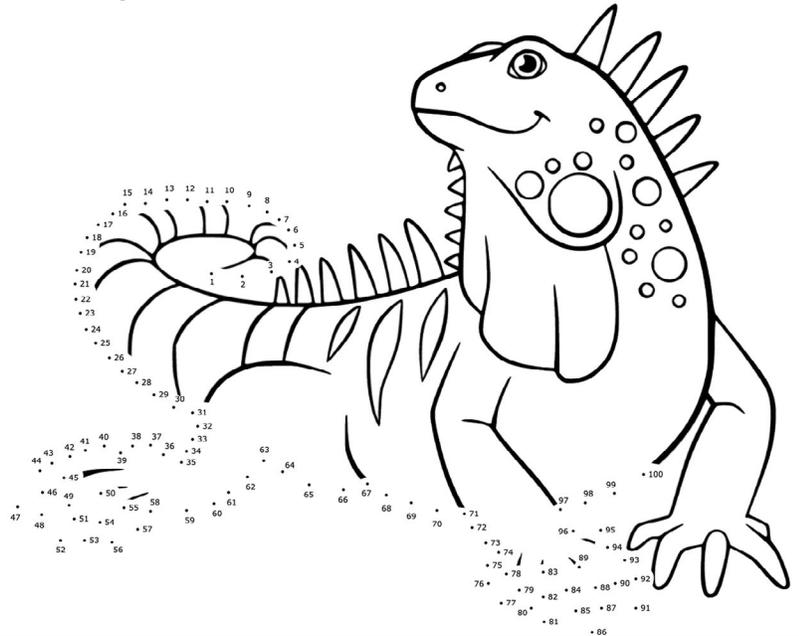
Note: If you use colored wood, please make sure that it is non-toxic.

Instructions:

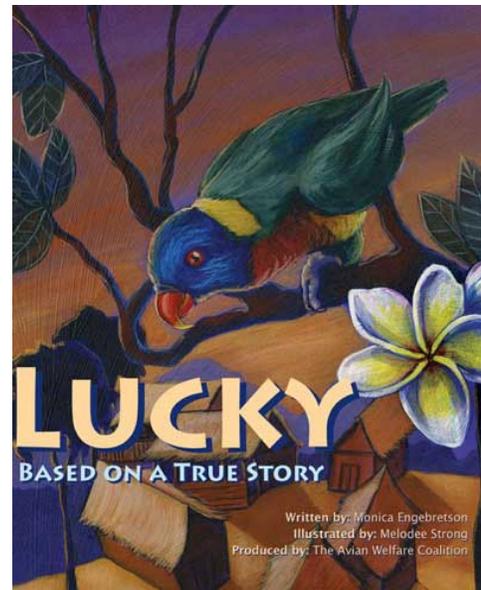
1. Cut the sisal rope so it is about 12 inches in length.
2. Tie a knot at one end, which will be the top.
3. Drill a hole through wood pieces that don't have holes. Ask a grownup to help!
4. String the rope through wood shapes or tie on other items in any way you want. Get creative!
5. Tie a small knot after each item to prevent them from slipping.
6. When finished tying on all pieces, tie a knot at the bottom of the rope. Add a bell for some added fun!

Color Me

Connect the dots to complete the drawing, then color in the iguana!



Book Nook



Join us for on-site programs at San Diego Humane Society!

sdhumane.org