



San Diego Humane Society's Critter Kids NEWS

Volume 8 / Issue 4

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

The important work that San Diego Humane Society accomplishes each day to help people and animals in our community would not be possible without the help of more than 5,000 compassionate volunteers!

These volunteers assist our staff with the many tasks required to care for animals including preparing food, walking dogs and spending time with animals (petting, socializing and playing). Our volunteers also foster animals in their homes until they are ready for adoption, help at our special events and even respond to animal emergencies in the community. We are so grateful for the support we receive from each of our volunteers!



Wildlife Window



Volunteers at our Pilar & Chuck Bahde and Ramona Wildlife Centers work very hard to keep our centers clean, organized and stocked with all the important items we need to help wild animals!

We also have volunteers with special jobs like helping our wildlife care specialists feed baby birds and mammals, assisting our medical team to treat sick patients and helping our animals return to the wild once they are healthy enough. We are very proud of these amazing volunteers, and we couldn't help so many wild animals each year without them!

Meet Our Staff

Meet Janet, Marissa and Otis

Janet, Marissa and Otis are a very special volunteer team because Marissa and Otis are Canine Ambassadors! Canine Ambassador and other Animal Ambassador volunteers participate in our education programs, community events and fundraisers all around San Diego. While volunteering, they educate the community about our services, programs and animals all while providing a fur fix. Pets of all species, breeds, ages and sizes participate in this program. We have ambassador rabbits, guinea pigs, snakes, a tortoise and even a pig! Janet, Marissa and Otis especially enjoy helping children learn and practice safe interactions with dogs at our school, library and on-site youth programs!



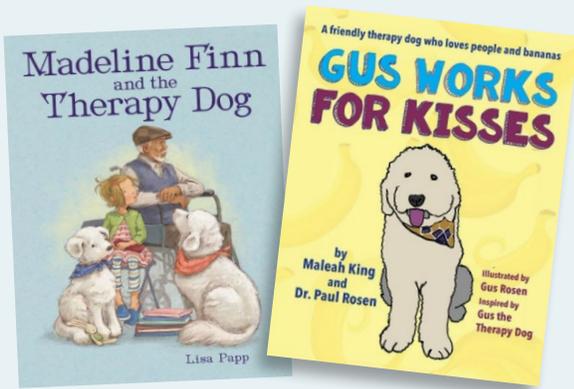


Lend a Paw

There are so many ways YOU can volunteer to help pets, wildlife, people and our planet! Check out our Compassion Challenge for inspiration. Anyone age 16 and up can volunteer at one of San Diego Humane Society's campuses. Visit sdhumane.org/volunteer to apply!

Book Nook

Check out these two books about volunteer therapy dogs and the important work they do!



HUMANE AT HOME

Compassion Challenge

Put your **compassion in action!**
Choose items from each Compassion Category to complete.

Pets

- Make a DIY enrichment item for your pet or to donate to a shelter animal.
- Spend extra time with your pet doing what they enjoy (longer walk for your dog, extra playtime out of cage, more snuggle time in bed, etc.).
- Teach your pet a new trick using positive reinforcement training – lots of praise and treats!
- Make an adoption poster promoting a long term animal at your local shelter and post it in the community.
- Find a recipe for a healthy treat to make for your pet to enjoy!

People

- Write a letter to a helper (nurse, Humane Law Enforcement Officer, police officer, veteran, teacher) and tell them why you appreciate them.
- Make a *Kindness Coupon* for a family member promising to do something nice for them (make dinner, do the dishes, play a game with a sibling).
- Donate food to your local food bank or make cookies for a friend.
- Help an elderly neighbor by mowing their lawn or walking their dog.
- Make a card or craft and deliver it to a senior living home to spread joy!

Wildlife

- Go on a nature walk in your neighborhood or a local park and take note of all the wild animals you see and hear. Keep a wildlife journal!
- Learn how to make your own window clings to help prevent birds from flying into your windows.
- Create a bird nesting box filled with items used to make nests (twigs, dead grass, shed animal fur) and place it somewhere safe for mama bird!
- Make a poster sharing the dangers of feeding bread to ducks and post it at a local pond.
- Research native flowers and plants for your area and plant some in your yard!

Planet

- Go on a litter walk and pick up trash in your neighborhood or a local park or beach. Be sure to wear gloves!
- Choose to use reusable items instead of plastic ones (shopping bag, water bottle, straw, utensils, etc.).
- Make the pledge to ditch single-use plastic. See who in your family can go the longest!
- Upcycle an item like an aluminum can and make it into a pencil holder or planter. Paint it for extra fun and flair!
- Make a vegetarian or vegan dish with your family and try to choose more plant-based options.
- Sort through your trash and learn which items can be recycled.

Color Me

Color Fiona, one of our amazing Canine Ambassador volunteers. Fiona is a great ambassador for her breed because this pit bull is as sweet as they come!



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

sdhumane.org