



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

Sometimes animals come to San Diego Humane Society with special needs.

Those needs might require a surgery, special diet, training plan or medical treatment to help them thrive. A husky named Sunny (877207) came to us with weakness in his back legs that, unfortunately, surgery could not fix. But since he wasn't in pain, we knew we needed to find a way to help him move around. The solution: his very own set of wheels! Our vets found a special wheelchair just the right size for this sweet boy! Now Sunny can easily move around and do all the things a dog does.



Sunny is just one of many animals who come to San Diego Humane Society with special needs. Through our dedication and creative thinking, animals like him can lead happy, normal lives.

Wildlife Window

Meet Chuck, a Western screech owl!



Chuck was brought to Project Wildlife in 2018 after likely being hit by a car. He had a serious head injury, so our vets had to remove his left eye to prevent further pain and infection. Since his hearing and sight is limited, Chuck was not able to be released back into the wild, but he became an education ambassador instead! Chuck now helps us teach the public about the importance of driving safely at night and looking out for our nocturnal friends (animals who are awake at night). To help keep Chuck safe in his enclosure, we make sure things are kept in the same place, so he isn't confused and knows where his food and water is located at all times.

Meet Our Staff

Meet Phil

Phil is a Creative Content Specialist with the Communications team at San Diego Humane Society. Part of Phil's job is to find creative ways to show off adoptable animals! Through videos and photos, he helps tell animals' stories and highlights special programs and events here at San Diego Humane Society — from the Behavior & Training program to the Walk for Animals. Phil loves the impact he can make on animals from filming a bear being released back into the wild to making TikToks about puppies to helping animals with special needs shine in the spotlight!





Lend a Paw

You can teach your own pet commands by using hand signals from **Acorn's Basic Hand Signs for Deaf Dogs**. Even if your pet isn't deaf, teaching hand signals can be very helpful. Pets speak by using body language, so they can be taught to understand body language as well! Here are a few to try out:

Watch Me



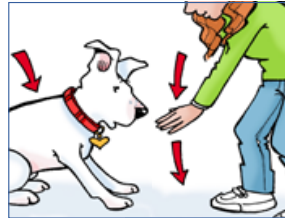
Point to your eyes with two fingers. The dog turns and looks at you.

Sit



Hold your hand out with the palm up and lift. The dog puts his backside on the ground in a seated position.

Down



Hold out your hand with your palm down, and lower it toward the floor. The dog lies with belly and elbows touching the ground.

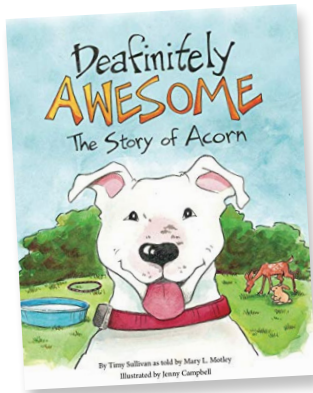
Stay



Flash your hand with palm facing the dog and fingers pointed up. The dog remains in the position you place her in until you release her.

Book Nook

Color Me



Deafinitely Awesome: The Story of Acorn

by Timy Sullivan as told by Mary L. Motley

Read the true story of Acorn, a shelter dog who was misunderstood until a volunteer named Mary came along. Acorn was labeled naughty and difficult because he just wouldn't listen to anyone, but Mary learned that he wasn't listening

because he couldn't hear - he was deaf! Mary embraced Acorn's special needs and taught him commands using sign language, changing both of their lives forever!



Some pets need extra help. They still deserve loving families.

Chris Jingles 🐾 Rockers Rescue



Find more book recommendations, activity pages and DIY project ideas on our Humane at Home page!

sdhumane.org/humaneathome