

SPCA® Kids

Kind Matters

News

Issue 16 / May 2021

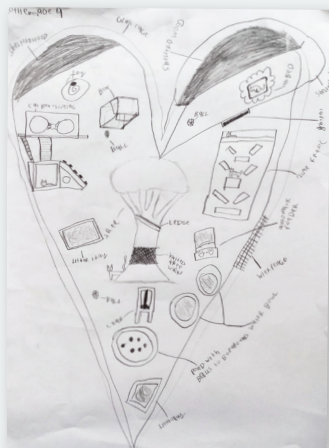
Kia ora to all of our wonderful Kind Matters readers!

Here we are with another exciting issue, full of fun, fascinating, must-know animal information! Over the previous 15 issues, we've learned so much about several different animals – dogs, cats, goats, guinea pigs, and wildlife to name a few. However, there's one BIG animal we have yet to take a closer look at. In this issue, you'll learn all about companion horses, including how they communicate and behave. Not only will you learn about horses, but this issue features an exciting NZ Garden Bird Survey that you can get involved with, as well as information about a BIG change to our Kids' Portal, among many other exciting things!

BUT FIRST, we want to announce the winners of the Kind Matters Catio Design Competition.

This was another difficult competition to judge with so many exceptional entries. However, we have made a decision - the winners are...

Junior Winner: Lottie



Senior Winner: Caitlin



BIG Congratulations to our winners who were chosen not only because they created amazing catio designs, but they also provided wonderful descriptions explaining their design features, such as safety, platforms at different heights, comfortable hiding places, food, water, litter trays, and protection from the heat of the summer and cold and rain of the winter. They also detailed how their designs would keep a cat safe and happy at home!

Check out the entries [here](https://www.kids.spcaneducation.org.nz).

Thank you to our incredible sponsors for the wonderful prizes: Faber-Castell NZ, Mary Egan Publishing, and Wheelers.

What's Inside



Introducing the Five Domains

The advanced animal welfare model



A Closer Look at: Horses – Hōiho

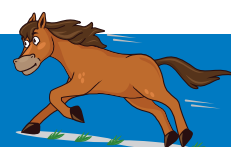
Learn all about these amazing animals



Kind Conservation: NZ Garden Bird Survey

Get outside and get involved!

and much more...



Visit www.kids.spcaneducation.org.nz

Introducing the Five Domains



We've recently made some big changes to SPCA's Kids' Portal!

In the past the Kids' Portal used the Five Freedoms to help you learn how to care for animals. However, we have updated all of this important information and you will notice that we are now using the **Five Domains** instead of the Five Freedoms!

The reason for this change is that the Five Freedoms focus on meeting the basic needs of an animal, while the

Five Domains go beyond just the basic needs of an animal and encourage positive experiences and recognise an animal's emotional needs. So, we believe that using the Five Domains help us care for animals even better!

The Five Domains and the Five Freedoms contain mostly the same five groups of needs however, the

Five Domains have a much bigger focus on the mental wellbeing (feelings) of an animal and acknowledge that these feelings can be both positive and negative.

The four domains of **health**, **behaviour**, **nutrition** and **environment** are the areas in which we, as animal guardians, can take positive action to ensure they are of a high standard.

These domains all impact on the overall **mental wellbeing** (the fifth domain) of an animal's welfare. As responsible animal guardians, the goal is to ensure animals have more positive experiences, helping them to have a life worth living.

Visit the **Five Domains** section of SPCA's Kids' Portal to learn more!

Five Freedoms



Five Domains

Nutrition – animals need a nutritious and balanced diet that is suitable for their species, access to fresh, clean water and opportunities to enjoy different tastes, textures and smells.

Environment – animals need to live in an environment that is safe and that has shelter, comfortable resting areas and enough space for exercise and expression of natural behaviours.

Health – animals need medical care to prevent or diagnose and treat illness and injuries, gentle handling and care that allows their body to be fit and healthy.

Behaviour – animals need to be able to express their natural behaviours in a suitable and enriched environment and live with the right sort of company.

Mental state – animals need opportunities and experiences that allow them to feel comfort, pleasure, interest, confidence and a sense of control.



Freedom from hunger and thirst



Freedom from discomfort



Freedom from pain, injury and disease



Freedom to express normal behaviour



Freedom from fear and distress



A Closer Look at: Horses – Hōiho



Animals communicate in a number of different ways – from chirps and chuffs, to tail wags and flicks!

Members of the equidae family, such as horses, are no different. Horses largely communicate through body language. Ear movement and position is one of the main ways horses communicate with their bodies, often pointing their ears in the direction of their attention. Horses will also communicate with their eyes, posture, legs, and tail.

Our friends at RSPCA UK created the below illustrations to help responsible animal guardians understand how their horse is feeling and what they are saying with their body language.

Horses may also sigh or grunt from time to time, but in general, they have four main vocalizations – these are the neigh, whinny, snort, and squeal. These are the ways horses communicate that they want food, sense threats, look for their young,

that they want attention, that they are having fun, among many other things.

These amazing animals have their own unique ways of communicating and it is up to you as a responsible animal guardian to understand how your horse is feeling so that you can ensure they're happy and healthy. Get to know your horse so you can learn what is normal behaviour for them!

If there is a change in your horse's normal behaviour, it's important to consult an equine vet immediately as this could be a sign they're sick or in pain, stressed or bored.

Additionally, it's key to remember that horses are social herd animals and therefore, your horse needs other horse friends. No one understands horse communication more than another horse and this is how they will feel safest and happiest!

Fun Fact

You may already know that some horses wear shoes... but do you know why?!

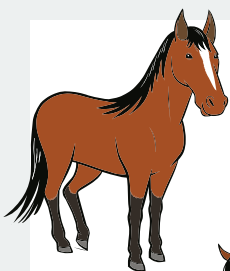
Horse shoes aren't like the shoes people wear, they're a special type of shoe (usually made from metal or other synthetic materials) that is fitted to the bottom of a horse's hoof. There are a number of reasons why a horse may benefit from wearing horseshoes - some horses will need them if they are ridden, if extra traction is required, or to help with gait (movement) issues. Shoes can protect weak hooves and prevent lameness. Horse shoes should always be in the best interest of your horse's welfare!

There is even a professional occupation solely devoted to fitting horse shoes. A farrier is an expert when it comes to not only horse shoes. A farrier will prepare your horse's feet and ensure the shoes are properly fixed to the correct part of your horse's hooves. Farriers are also experts when it comes to routine hoof care, which all horses need!



Recognise and understand your horse's body language

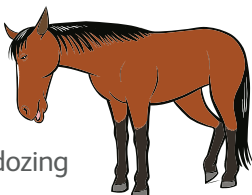
© RSPCA UK



A happy horse

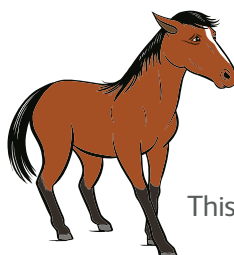
This horse is relaxed and happy.

This horse is dozing and resting.



A worried horse

This horse is anxious and could be in pain.



This horse fearful.



An angry or very unhappy horse

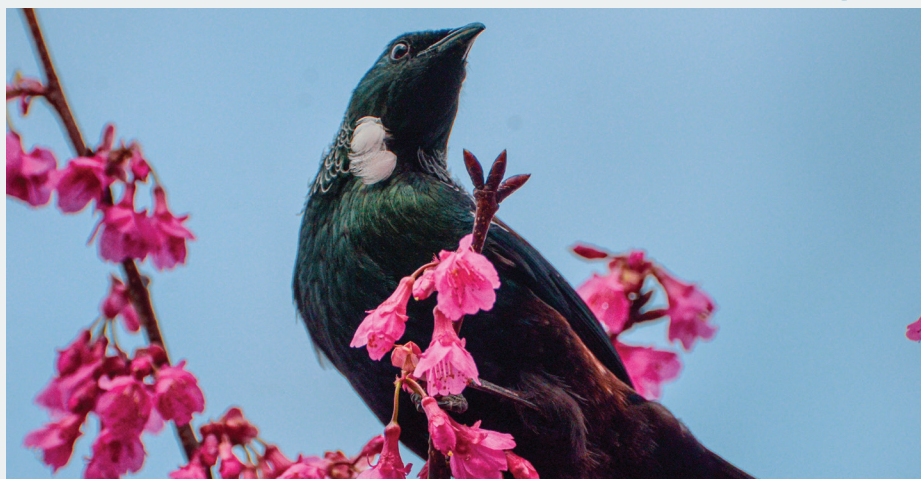
This horse is mildly annoyed.



Kick threat.



Kind Conservation: New Zealand Garden Bird Survey



Next month marks the start of the Manaaki Whenua - Landcare Research New Zealand Garden Bird Survey... get outside and get involved!

This bird-watching activity is a citizen science project that is a perfect example of Kind Conservation! By collecting this data, and knowing how the birds are doing in our own backyards, we are able to determine the health of New Zealand's environment. With this information, we can know exactly what it is we need to do to help protect these incredible backyard birds and

their habitats!

Before heading out, be sure to familiarise yourself with the kinds of birds in your area. If you're unsure what bird you're looking at, you can use the below supporting resources:

- > [Garden Bird Guide](#)
- > [DOC Bird Songs and Calls](#)
- > [New Zealand Birds Online](#)

Check out the survey details below

What:

Garden Bird Survey

When:

26 June – 4 July, 2021

Why:

Helps determine the health of NZ's garden bird populations.

How:

1. Select your garden, park or school.
2. Choose any ONE day from 26 June to 4 July 2021.
3. Look for birds for ONE hour in your survey area.
4. Submit your survey results online.
5. Use this tally sheet to record for each species the HIGHEST number seen (or heard) at one time.

[Click here to learn more!](#)

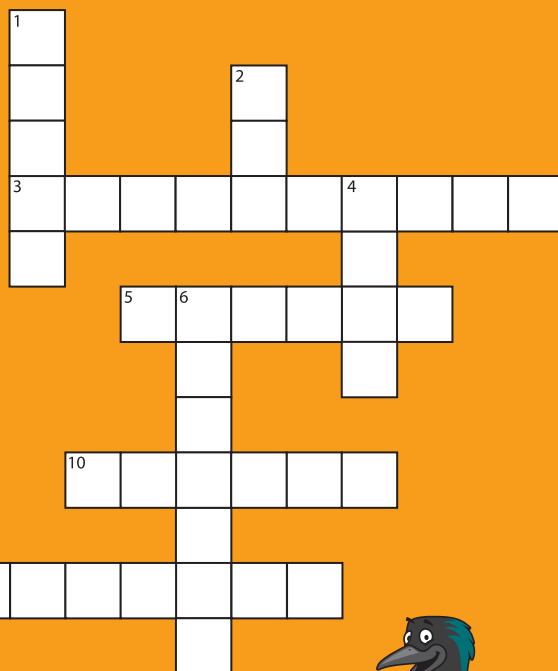
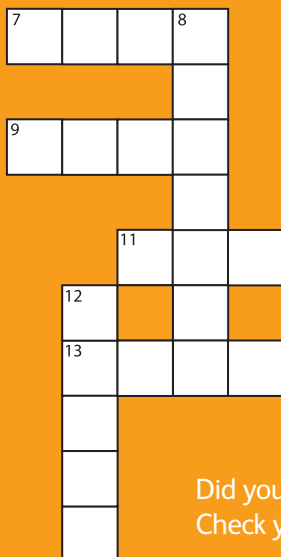
Crossword

ACROSS

3. What some horses wear.
5. The largest pigeon in the world.
7. Where a horseshoe is fitted on a horse.
9. Horses have this many main vocalizations.
10. Another horse vocalization.
11. The Maori name for fantail.
13. A body part horses use to communicate.

DOWN

1. The Maori name for horse.
2. The NZ Garden Bird Survey will take this many hours.
4. A name for a group of horses.
6. Horses are members of this family.
8. A hoof care professional.
12. A horse vocalization.



Did you solve the crossword?
Check your answers on the last page



Fun Backyard Bird Facts!

Kererū



The kererū (New Zealand wood pigeon) is the largest pigeon in the world. Endemic to Aotearoa, kererū are the only NZ bird that can swallow large fruit, like karaka berries.

Starling



The common starling is a colourful and social bird that roosts, feeds, and travels in large flocks.

Tiu



Male and female tiu (house sparrow) are quite different in appearance, with males having distinct black and brown markings on their heads, while females (pictured) are paler in colour.

Tauhou



Tauhou (silver-eye/wax-eye) are native to New Zealand. Though they have beautiful green feathers as adults, when tauhou hatch, they are blind and only have two down feathers on their heads.

Korimako



Only female korimako (New Zealand bellbird) incubate (sit on) their eggs, but both the male and female will care for their hatchlings.

Pīwakawaka

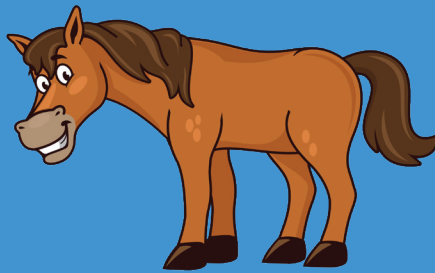


The endemic pīwakawaka (New Zealand fantail) has a distinct song and is known to be very vocal – especially during their breeding season, but less so when the weather is very cold.

Complete the Mascot

Uh oh... Harry the horse doesn't look like himself!

Using the first photo for reference, complete the mascot by drawing the missing parts of the picture.



Pawesome Supporter Highlight



SPCA is very thankful for the awesome support we receive throughout the year from young people across Aotearoa.

We recently had one pawesome young supporter who thought outside of the box and got super creative with their support of SPCA!

Charlotte took the initiative to create a YouTube video teaching viewers how to make knitted mice for the cats and kittens at SPCA! Once she was done, Charlotte donated the mice to SPCA. How cool is that?!

Thank you Charlotte for your wonderful video and for helping animals in need!

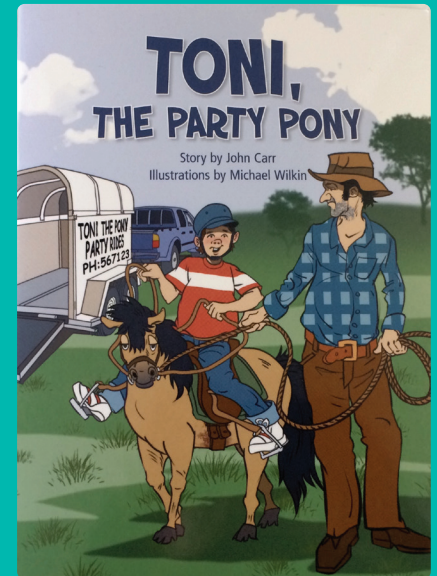
You can check out the video [here](#) and find the knitted mice instructions on SPCA's Kids' Portal [here](#).

Book Nook

Title: Toni, the Party Pony

Author: John Carr

Illustrator: Michael Wilkin



Toni the Pony was exhausted. Her hooves hurt, her legs ached and the tight saddle strap had rubbed a raw patch at the top of her foreleg that hurt every time she moved. Week after week, Toni travelled from party to party and fair to fair, plodding in circles while excited, happy children bounced up and down on her tired back. That was up until Sammy and her Dad met Toni. They noticed that Toni was in pain and not being looked after properly and decided to do something about it!

You can find these storybooks at your school or local library, or you can buy your own sets online at: sPCA-shop.mystorbie.com

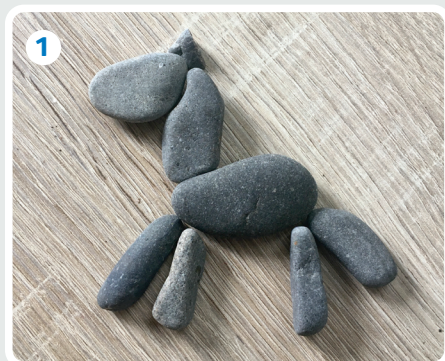


Craft: Horse Pebble Art

Materials needed

- > Card paper
- > Box frame photo
- > Hot glue gun
- > Pebbles, sticks and leaves

Instructions



1 Gather and arrange pebbles in the shape of a horse – you'll need 4 legs, a body, neck, head, and ear.



2 Remove the glass from the box photo frame, place a piece of card paper in the frame, and re-attach the back to the frame.



3 Place the pebbles on the frame and hot glue in place.



4 Glue leaves in place to make your horse's mane and tail.



5 Add details like sticks for the ground and shredded leaves for grass.



6 Display your awesome piece of pebble art masterpiece!

New Zealand Sign Language Week

This year, New Zealand Sign Language Week is taking place from 10th – 16th May.

Join us in celebrating this official language by learning the some animal signs and exploring Deaf Aotearoa's resources here! nzslweek.org.nz



Did you take photos of the cool backyard birds you spotted during the survey?

We'd love to see and share your shots!

Email education@spca.nz



Answers:
1. Hōiho
2. One
3. Horseshoes
4. Herd
5. Kereiti
6. Equidae
7. Hoof
8. Farrier
9. Four
10. Whimpy
11. Pīwakawaka
12. Neigh
13. Ears