

and much more...

Mystery Picture

Use the colour code to fill in each square on the grid. Match the number in the square to the correct colour. Keep colouring until the mystery picture is revealed! Can you guess what it is?

2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	4	4	4	2	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
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1 = dark blue

2 = orange

3 = blue

4 = black

5 = green

6 = yellow

7 = red

8 = pink



Answers on page 12



Why Bees Matter!



Did you know your backyard, local park, school grounds and even the footpath on your way to school can be a home for all sorts of wild animals? Urban, garden and backyard habitats aren't just for our pets - they're also home to birds, insects, reptiles and more!

You might spot animals like:

- Insects - bees, ants, beetles, butterflies
- Snails and slugs
- Skinks and geckos
- Birds - like tūī, pīwakawaka (fantail), swallows, blackbirds and even kea
- Hedgehogs

Among these backyard visitors, bees are some of the most important – especially New Zealand's native bees. While we have about 28 native species here, Australia has around 1,500!

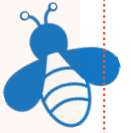
That makes our bees pretty special.

What's the Buzz About Native Bees?

Our native bees might be small and often hard to spot, but they're powerful pollinators. They help plants grow by carrying pollen from flower to flower while collecting nectar and food. Unlike honey bees, native bees:

- Don't live in hives
- Don't make honey
- Nest in bare patches of undisturbed soil

How can you help?



1. Plant native trees and flowers in your garden.
2. Leave small areas of bare soil.
3. Buy seasonal, organic fruit and vegetables to help reduce pesticide use.

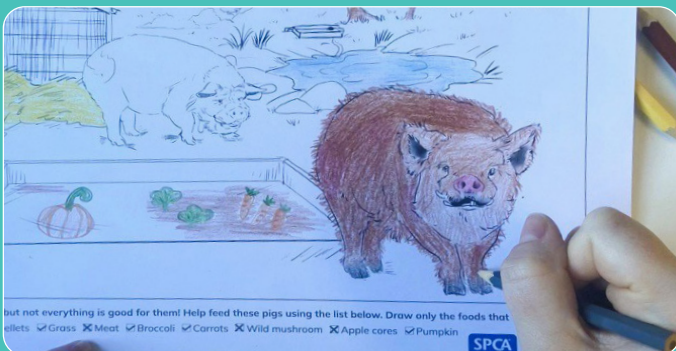
These small actions can help protect native bees and the important work they do in keeping our ecosystems healthy and blooming, including helping plants like pōhutukawa grow and thrive.

So next time you see a bee buzzing in your garden, take a moment to thank it - it's doing way more than you might think!

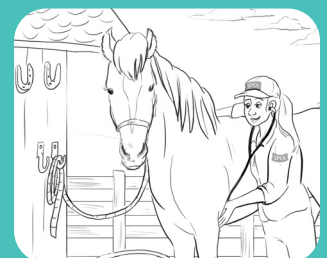
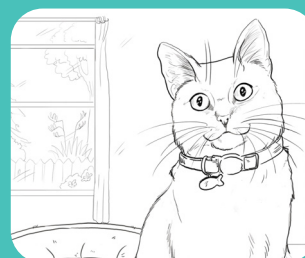
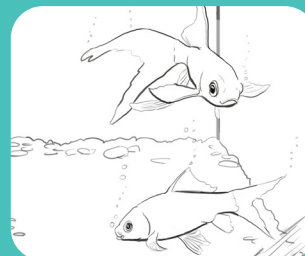
- Have short tongues, perfect for small native flowers like mānuka and kānuka

You can also find them in orchards and veggie gardens, where they help pollinate fruits and crops. But they need flowers nearby to survive as they're not big travellers!

Colour and Discover: Animal Activity Sheets



Get creative these holidays with our fun new activity sheets - from drawing tasty treats for pigs and designing a fish tank, to creating a friend for a lonely cow. These aren't just colouring pages, they'll help you learn what animals need to be happy and healthy while practising kindness and care. A perfect summer activity for animal lovers!



Check out the activity sheets on the [Kids' Portal!](#)

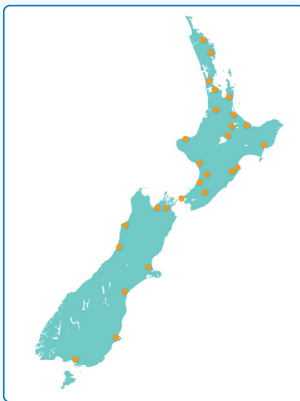


Like you, SPCA wants everyone in New Zealand to know how to look after their animals and give them the love and respect they deserve. But how much do you actually know about SPCA? Read on to find out!



Did you know that every year, over 30,000 animals in Aotearoa get a helping hand from SPCA? From injured kittens to abandoned puppies and even lost chickens, SPCA works hard to create a New Zealand where all animals are treated with empathy, compassion and respect.

SPCA stands for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals - quite a mouthful! That's why we just say SPCA. There are 27 SPCA Centres all around New Zealand, and they've been helping animals since 1872 - that's more than 150 years ago!



SPCA is a charity, which means we don't make money from what we do. Instead, we rely on kind-hearted people to donate, volunteer or fundraise so we can keep rescuing, treating and rehoming animals in need. In fact, we need around \$66 million every year to keep going! We also help by responding to over 13,000 animal welfare concerns a year - that's a lot of animal emergencies!

Did you know there are many awesome jobs at SPCA that help animals in different ways?

From Inspectors to animal care attendants, vets and vet nurses, our team works hard every day to advance animal welfare and prevent cruelty in Aotearoa.

SPCA Quiz

Are you an SPCA expert? Find out by taking the quiz. Colour or circle the correct answer.

1. SPCA stands for Society for Pet and Creature Aid.

T

F

2. Each year, SPCA helps over 30,000 animals in need.

T

F

3. There are 18 SPCA Centres around New Zealand.

T

F

4. SPCA needs around \$66 million dollars every year to operate.

T

F

5. SPCA has been helping animals in New Zealand since 1972.

T

F

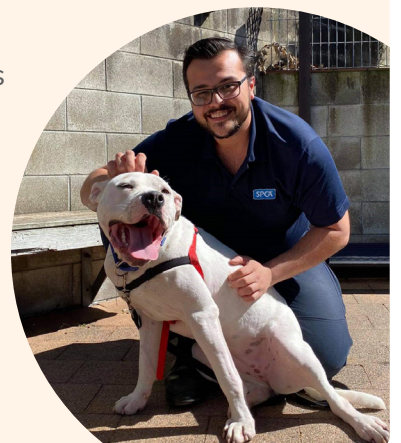
Answers on page 12

TRUE

FALSE

Did you know?

1. SPCA began in England in the 19th century.
2. The first SPCA in New Zealand was formed in Canterbury in 1872.
3. SPCA has approximately 600 employees, 58 warranted inspectors and 5000 volunteers.
4. SPCA is the only charity in New Zealand with the power to protect all animals (including prosecuting people) under the Animal Welfare Act 1999.



You can learn more about SPCA on the Kids' Portal!

Secret Summer Code

Each picture is represented by a picture. Work out the coded conservation tip by using the key below.



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Answers on page 12

Mixed-up Messages!

Oh no! These animal care messages have all been jumbled up! Can you rearrange the words so that each sentence makes sense?

Each sentence is a tip for keeping animals cool during the hot summer months. Write the correct sentence underneath each one once you've unscrambled it.

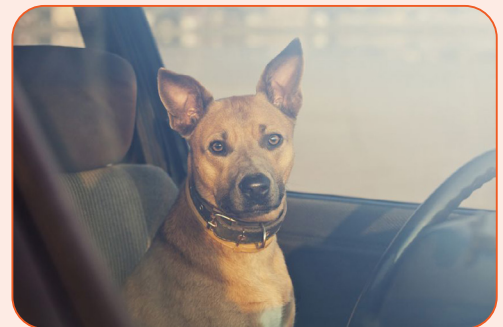
1. water fresh cool shade and lots Provide of.

2. dog a on warm Don't a in vehicle a day leave.

3. around Do unsupervised pets pool not leave a.

4. sun from skin animal's your Protect the.

5. dogs for walking times the best are mornings early Cooler.



Answers on page 12

Keep Your Pets Safe This Festive Season

Christmas is a time for yummy food, sparkly decorations and fun with family - but it's also a time when pets can easily get into trouble. Some things that are safe for humans can be really dangerous for animals.



Be Careful What Your Pets Eat!

Animals don't digest food the same way we do. That means some human food can make them very sick, or may even be deadly. Check out the [full list](#) of dangerous foods that your companions should never munch on! Let's keep our furry friends safe and happy this festive season!

NEVER feed your pet:

1. **CHOCOLATE** - Can cause vomiting, seizures and heart issues. 
2. **FRUITCAKE** - Raisins and grapes are toxic. 
3. **ONIONS & CHIVES** - Can damage red blood cells. 
4. **FATTY MEATS** - Can cause painful stomach issues. 
5. **CORN COBS** - Can block their tummies. 
6. **SUGAR-FREE LOLLIES** - Xylitol is very poisonous to dogs. 
7. **AVOCADO** - Toxic to many animals. 
8. **ALCOHOL & CAFFEINE** - Never safe for pets. 

Safe & Fun Ways to Treat Your Pet

Try these ideas instead:

- Go for a post-breakfast walk
- Play games in the garden
- Freeze pet food in toys or ice cubes



Talk to an adult and call your vet right away if your pet:

- Vomits
- Stops eating
- Acts tired or wobbly
- Seems "not right"

Decorate with Pets in Mind

Your decorations might look like toys or snacks!

Safer decorating tips:

- Secure your Christmas tree so it can't fall over
- Use battery lights instead of plug-in ones
- Avoid tinsel (especially for curious cats)
- Prevent a fall - tape down or cover cords
- Skip real candles unless an adult is watching closely
- Use shatter-proof decorations (plastic, wood, paper)

Want more tips? Check out additional information [here](#).



Word Search



Find all of the words from this issue of Kind Matters!

k b g b f w c g u m c l l b
s x j r e h j e h s f l i e
r p u u a w q l l i h t s e
s r o r p r r x r z z a z h
n o i k x p o e p b v l d z
z t o a l x w x d z j q y e
y e d e c o r a t i o n s t
o c y d r o n b u a p g i a
y t u k w l j s r h i s x l
f n s y g l f p e p j d e o
f i s h z f u n g m n o c c
q v t f a c p s n i i z b o
v g w e i v e r k o o b y h
a n i m a l w e l f a r e c

bee
charity
SPCA
spiderweb
ngeru
kind
protect
decorations
shade
book review
animal welfare
fireworks
pig
fish
chocolate



What am I?

Use the information below to guess what type of animal is being described. Once you think you know, draw the animal in the box. Can you work out what the two animals are?



1 Can you guess what type of animal I am?

- I can't cool down by sweating.
- I sunburn easily so use mud as sunscreen
- My squeal can be as loud as a plane.
- I am as smart as a three year old human.
- I am a social animal.
- I have four toes covered in hard hooves.

Draw who you think I am:

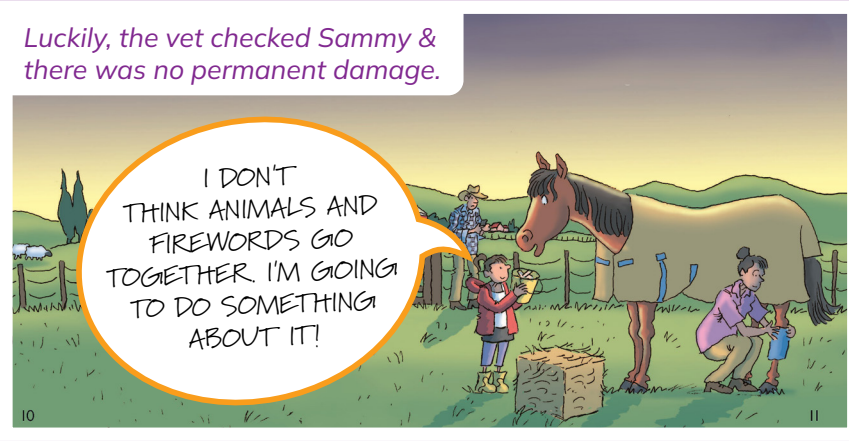
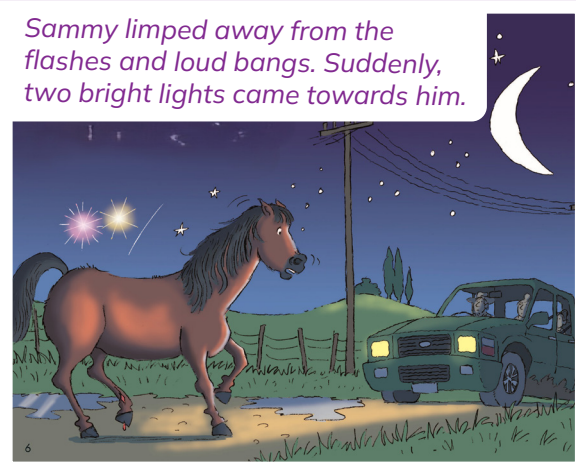
2 Can you guess what type of animal I am?

- I use my mouth for both taste and smell.
- Most of us have scales but no eyelids
- Feed me little and often - don't offer me anything bigger than the size of my eye.
- A group of us is called a school.
- There are over 30,000 species of us.

Draw who you think I am:

Fireworks Free

Fireworks season is here! Celebrations like Christmas and New Years light up the sky – but for many animals, this can be scary. Read the comic below, then fill in the empty speech bubbles with what you think Sammy the horse might be saying and feeling.





I Spy Scavenger Hunt

Go for a walk around your neighbourhood and play this awesome I Spy Scavenger Hunt game! How many can you spy?

Tick them off as you go.


☐

Butterfly
Pūrerehua


☐

Bee
Pī


☐

Tree
Rākau


☐

Cat
Ngeru


☐

Spiderweb
Māwhaiwhai


☐

Dog
Kurī


☐

Bird house
Wharemanu


☐

Leaf
Rau


☐

Flower
Putiputi


☐

Grass
Pātītī


☐

Clouds
Kapua


☐

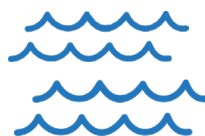
Bird tracks
Tapuwae manu


☐

Bench
Nohoanga


☐

Insect
Ngārara


☐

Water
Wai


☐

Bird
Manu

No Bake Cake Pops Recipe

Ready to create some delicious cake pops? They're fun, quick and the perfect party treat for your human friends and family to enjoy!

Ingredients:

- 2/3 cup almond flour
- 1/2 cup coconut flour
- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- 3 Tbsp butter (melted)
- 1 pinch sea salt
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 cup white chocolate chips
- rainbow sprinkles



Method:



1 Combine almond flour, coconut flour, maple syrup, melted butter, vanilla and salt.



2 Using a spoon, divide the mixture into 12 equal sized balls.



3 Take each portion and roll it into a ball with your hands.



4 Place balls on a plate. Add sticks (if using) and chill in fridge for 30 minutes to set.



5 Melt white chocolate chips in a microwave safe bowl.



6 Remove dough balls from fridge and dip each ball in chocolate.



7 Sprinkle with rainbow sprinkles, then chill for 30 minutes to firm up.

YUMMY!



Animal Welfare Storybooks

Here's a great list of stories that explore animal needs, kindness and compassion - and are perfect for summer holiday reading or for inspiration in the Kind Matters Book Review Competition!

Did you know that when you read a story, your brain acts like you're really there with the characters? Reading helps you imagine and understand how others might feel - people and animals. So grab a book, dive into a story and see the world through an animal's eyes!



Title: It's Raining Dogs and Pups!

Author: Jeanne Provost

Illustrator: Amelia Hansen

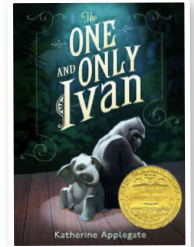


Lauren feels sad when her dad gets their dog, Scout, spayed. But after visiting a busy animal shelter, she learns how preventing unwanted puppies helps stop loneliness and neglect.

Title: The One and Only Ivan

Author: Katherine Applegate

Illustrator: Patricia Castelao

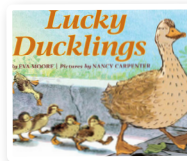


Told by Ivan, a gorilla who has lived most of his life on display in a mall, this story follows his journey as he meets Ruby, a young elephant who changes how he sees the world. Inspired by a real gorilla's story, this moving tale is suitable for all ages.

Title: Lucky Ducklings

Author: Eva Moore

Illustrator: Nancy Carpenter

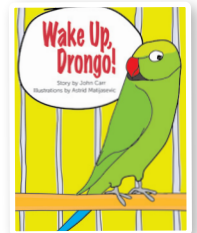


Lucky Ducklings tells the true story of five little ducklings that were rescued when they fell into a storm drain.

Title: Wake up Drongo!

Author: John Carr

Illustrator: Astrid Matijasevic

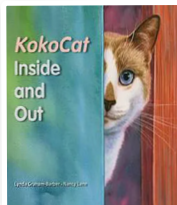


Pirate the parakeet dreams of leaving his small, lonely cage to join the wild birds he watches every day. When he finally gets the chance, he discovers that life outside isn't as easy or safe as he imagined.

Title: KokoCat, Inside and Out

Author: Lynda Graham-Barber

Illustrator: Nancy Lane



KokoCat, a curious housecat, slips outside to explore but soon discovers that life on the streets is scary and lonely. Lost and hungry, she dreams of returning to the warm, safe home she once had.

Title: The Nine Lives of Travis Keating

Author: Jill McLean

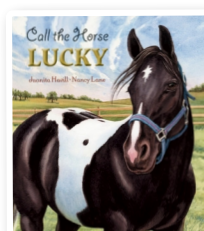


After moving to start a new life after his mum's death, Travis discovers a colony of feral cats in desperate need of help.

Title: Call the Horse Lucky

Author: Juanita Havill

Illustrator: Nancy Lane



When Mel discovers a neglected horse while visiting her grandmother, she's determined to help. Her rescue leads the horse, now named Lucky, to a care ranch where Mel learns about horse welfare and forms a special bond with him.



You can find these stories at your local library or bookshop!

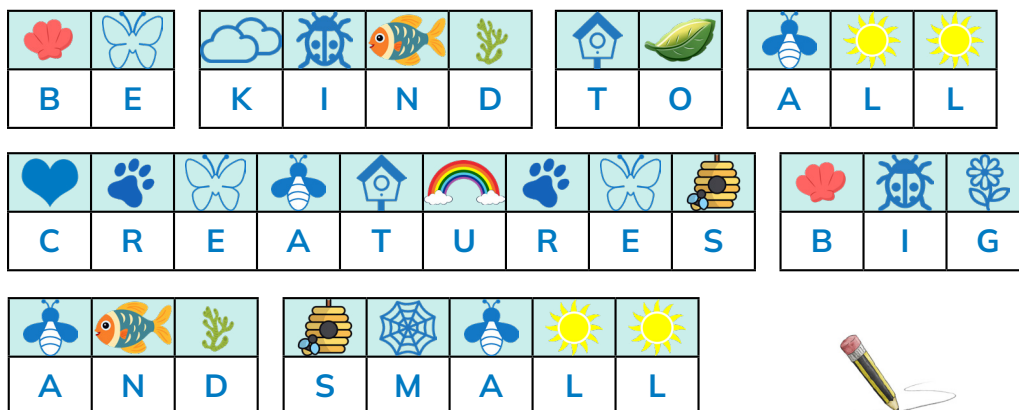
Click [here](#) to see the complete list of suggested books!



Check out SPCA's animal storybooks on the [Kids' Portal](#).

Activity Answer Key:

Secret Summer Code (page 5)



Ask an Expert

The Kids' Portal is jam-packed full of information. But, if you still can't find what you're looking for, feel free to contact our expert [here!](#)

What am I? (page 7)

1. I am a pig.
2. I am a fish.



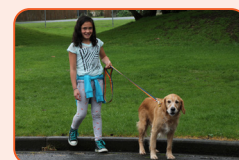
SPCA QUIZ (page 4)

1. F
2. T
3. F
4. T
5. F

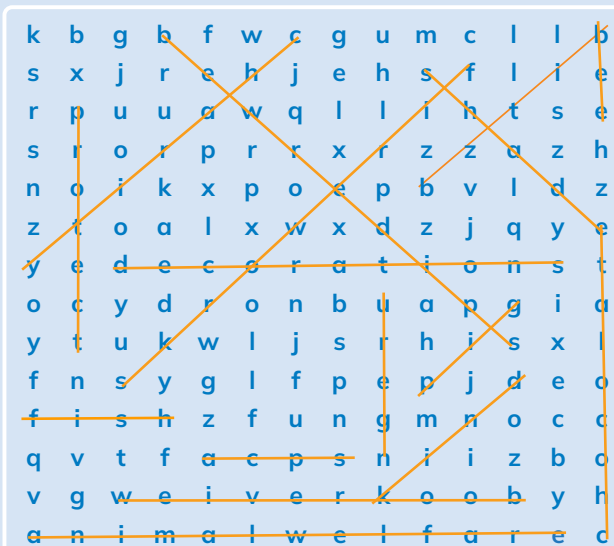


Mixed up Messages (page 5)

1. Provide cool, fresh water and lots of shade.
2. Don't leave a dog in a vehicle on a warm day.
3. Do not leave pets unsupervised around a pool.
4. Protect your animal's skin from the sun.
5. Cooler early mornings are the best times for walking dogs.



Word Search (page 7)

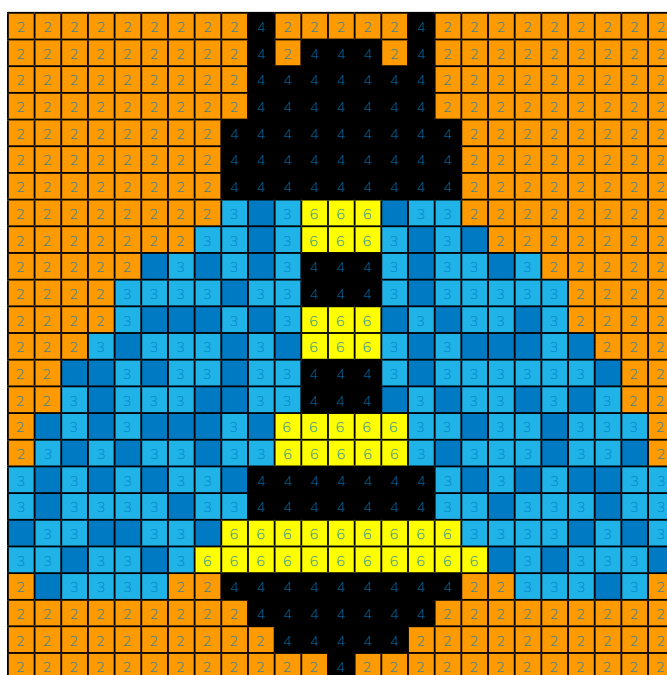


bee
charity
SPCA
spiderweb
ngeru

kind
shade
protect
decorations
chocolate

book review
animal welfare
fireworks
pig
fish

Mystery Picture (page 2)



What do you want to see in the next issue of Kind Matters?

Email education@sPCA.nz



We hope you enjoyed the issue!



Animal Book Review **COMPETITION!**

Choose a book about animals (it could be a picture book, a short story, or even a non-fiction/fact book). Then tell us what you think! Complete the book review below - and don't forget to add lots of detail!

Did you like the book? ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Title: _____

Author: _____

Illustrator: _____

Genre: _____



What was the book about? What was your favourite part? Why?



Reading about this/these animal(s) made me feel...

Draw your favourite part or favourite animal from the book:



Name: _____ Age: _____

Email: _____

Awesome prizes to be won! Find out more at www.sPCA.nz/kids

