

# kind News™

2020  
MAY-JUNE

The buzz  
about bees  
p. 4

Meet Lily  
and Violet  
p. 8

The  
Buzz  
about bees



A PUBLICATION OF

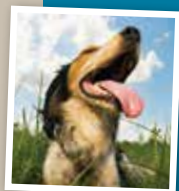
 **RedRover**  
Bringing Animals from Crisis to Care  
ISSN: 2575-0550

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## Pet Corner



### Is Your Cat Happy?

What do you look like when you are happy? When people are happy, we smile and laugh. Our bodies and faces are relaxed. We may sing, dance, or tell someone, "I'm in a good mood!" Cats also show us when they are happy. They just show it in different ways!

### Quiz yourself! Circle True or False:

Cats show they are happy when...

1. They are lying down and purring. (T / F)
2. Their body is stiff, like a plank of wood. (T / F)
3. Their tail and fur are puffed out. (T / F)
4. They sleep near you or on you. (T / F)
5. Their ears are flat against their head, pointed back. (T / F)
6. They are playing with toys. (T / F)
7. They rub their face on you. (T / F)
8. They growl or hiss. (T / F)
9. Their tails stand up in a relaxed way, quiver (shake gently) and curl at the end. (T / F)
10. They slowly blink their eyes while looking at you. (T / F)

### Fun fact: *Slow-blink*

Next time you see a sleepy cat, try blinking slowly at them. They just might "slow-blink" back at you! If they do, it means they trust you.

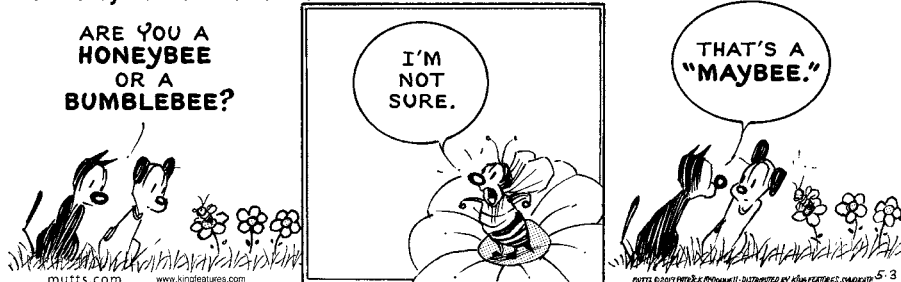
# MUTTS

by  
Patrick McDonnell

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# Krithi's FURRY FRIENDS



When Krithi was seven, she and her family moved from Sacramento, California, to India. India has a high population of stray animals and not enough resources to take care of them all, so Krithi helps care for them. Every Saturday during the school year, Krithi volunteers at an animal organization called Blue Cross in Hyderabad, India. She walks animals, bathes them, and helps with their adoptions. Some animals need special care, so she also spends a lot of time with scared animals that need extra attention.

After school, Krithi spends her time with members of FurEver, an animal club that she started with the help of her principal. They meet every other week to plan their goals, activities, and events. Through school events, they plan to create awareness and raise money for animals.

When Krithi is not planning club meetings, she writes books about her adopted dog, Sushi. When Sushi was adopted, Krithi and her family's lives changed forever.

"He knows exactly how I am feeling," Krithi says. "Whenever I feel low, he cuddles with me and licks me to make me feel better. He is the biggest stress buster for everyone in my family."

Sushi makes everyone feel super safe, loved, and happy, so Krithi decided to write a book series about her dog called *Super Sushi*. The money she makes from her book sales are donated to animal welfare organizations, like RedRover.

Krithi hopes to become an animal rights lawyer with her own rescue organization one day. But until then, Krithi will focus on the creative ways she enjoys helping her furry friends.

## Humane Heroes ACROSS THE COUNTRY!



Animal shelters all over the country were overwhelmed by the kindness of humane heroes who stepped up to foster animals when shelters were forced to close due to the COVID-19 virus infecting people worldwide. **Shown here:** the last dog available to foster being picked up through the emergency drive-thru foster program at the Front Street Animal Shelter in Sacramento, CA. In a matter of days, they cleared almost all their kennels. A spokesperson commented happily, "We've never seen the shelter this empty!"





# The Buzz about bees

Bees fly above fields, roadsides, and farms in search of the best flower patches. What do you think or feel when you hear the word "bees?" What do you think or feel when you hear the word "honeybees?" When bees come around you, do you scream and swat them away? Nancy Miorelli, an **entomologist**, studies bees and other insects. She says that people often react positively to honeybees but are afraid of other bees. Why do you think people react that way?



"Bees don't want to sting you," Miorelli says. When they do, they're protecting themselves or their **colony** or group. Moving slowly and carefully around bees can help you avoid a sting.

Since honeybees can be kept in colonies in man-made structures called **hives**, they can be used in large numbers on farms. As the bees travel from flower to flower eating the sugary fluid called **nectar** and powdery yellow **pollen**, they carry pollen from one plant to another. The spread of pollen, or **pollination**, is necessary for flowers to grow the fruit, nuts, and vegetables we eat.

Most wild bees are **solitary**, living alone, often in nests on the ground or in dead trees. They pollinate wild plants and some farm crops. Many people are concerned about honeybees competing with wild bees for food. Other threats to wild bees include





## FUN FACTS ABOUT BEES

the use of **pesticides** — chemicals that kill insects harmful to crops — and loss of the wild plants they depend on.

How can you help? “You can plant a wildflower garden and find seeds **native** — originally from an area — to your area,” says Miorelli. “Leave wildflowers where you find them. Appreciate them alive and growing instead of in a vase, and you can feel good knowing they’re a food source for pollinators like bees.”

### “Bee” Helpful

Solitary, native bees tend to be harmless to people and helpful to our wild habitats. Here’s how to help them out:

- Plant wildflowers in your yard or on your porch. The National Wildlife Federation has an online “Native Plant Finder” to show you which ones your local bees love.
- Fill a birdbath or other shallow dish with fresh water and rocks for bees to land on as they take a drink.
- Urge your family and community to use organic products instead of lawn pesticides that target all insects.
- Make or buy a bee hotel! Like a bird house but with hollow tubes inside for bees to nest in, bee houses can be attached to the side of your own house or porch.
- Leave areas in your yard with bare soil, along with logs and long stems. They’ll serve as natural nesting places for your native bees.



*sweat bee*

- 1 There are more than 4,000 **species**, or animals that have traits in common, of bees in the United States and more than 20,000 known species worldwide.
- 2 Bees sting you with a body part called a **stinger**. Male bees lack a stinger. That means that about half of all bees can’t sting you!
- 3 **Carpenter** bees can tunnel perfectly round holes into wood. They’re making spaces to raise their young.
- 4 Sweat bees get their name because they like to land on us and sip our salty sweat.
- 5 Colony dwellers like honeybees and bumblebees do **elaborate**, or complex, dances to show the rest of their group where the best flower patches are.
- 6 Honeybees use the nectar they eat to produce honey and beeswax, which is used in lip balm, hand cream, and candles.
- 7 The world’s smallest bees, the *Perdita minima*, are less than two millimeters long. That’s the smallest measurement on most rulers!



# WHY DO DOGS PANT?

Dogs can't sweat the way people do when they get hot. Instead they get rid of extra heat in their bodies by panting.

Animals are made up of cells that don't work well if they get too hot or too cold. Because of this, all animals **regulate**, or control, their temperature. This is called **thermoregulation**. Dogs only have sweat glands located in their paws and ear canals. These do not help cool a dog very much, since these body parts are small compared to the rest of the dog. Panting is the main way that dogs cool themselves off. A dog's tongue is moist and wide, making it possible for water to **evaporate** (change from liquid to gas) from its surface, and take the heat away with it. Panting, like sweating in humans, is a form of **evaporative cooling**.

Because dogs can't cool off as easily as humans, it is especially important to not leave them in a hot car. Very quickly, heat builds up from the sun and gets trapped in cars. Dogs left in hot cars for even a short time can begin to experience damage to their cells. Visit the RedRover Reporters YouTube Channel to watch a video about keeping dogs safe in hot weather and learn how you can help.

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VIDEOS MADE  
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## CRITTER CLUES

- 1 I am a **solitary** animal. I stay by myself except when I am raising my babies.
- 2 I am a **predator** who can catch animals larger than myself, but I usually eat animals smaller than I am, like rabbits, birds, and mice.
- 3 My fur can be light gray, brown, yellowish-brown, or reddish-brown, but it is always spotted.
- 4 I can live in many kinds of **dens**, such as caves or hollowed-out logs.
- 5 I am not very **social** with people, so I usually run when I see them — most likely you will not see me even if I live nearby!
- 6 I get my name from my short tail, which looks like it has been cut.
- 7 Sometimes people confuse me with the lynx, but I am smaller and our tails look different.

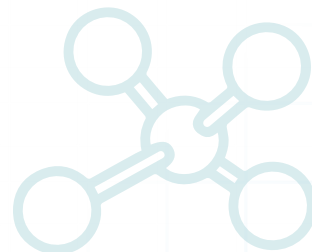
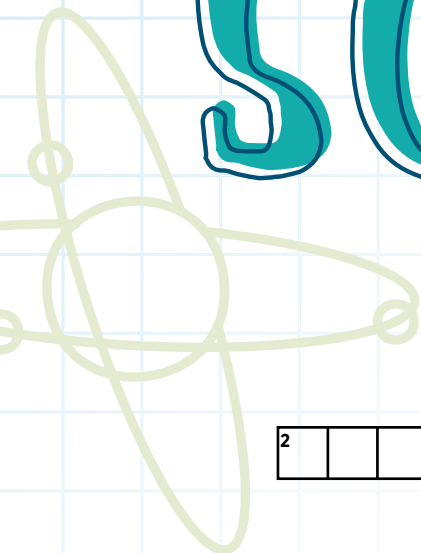
## WHAT AM I?



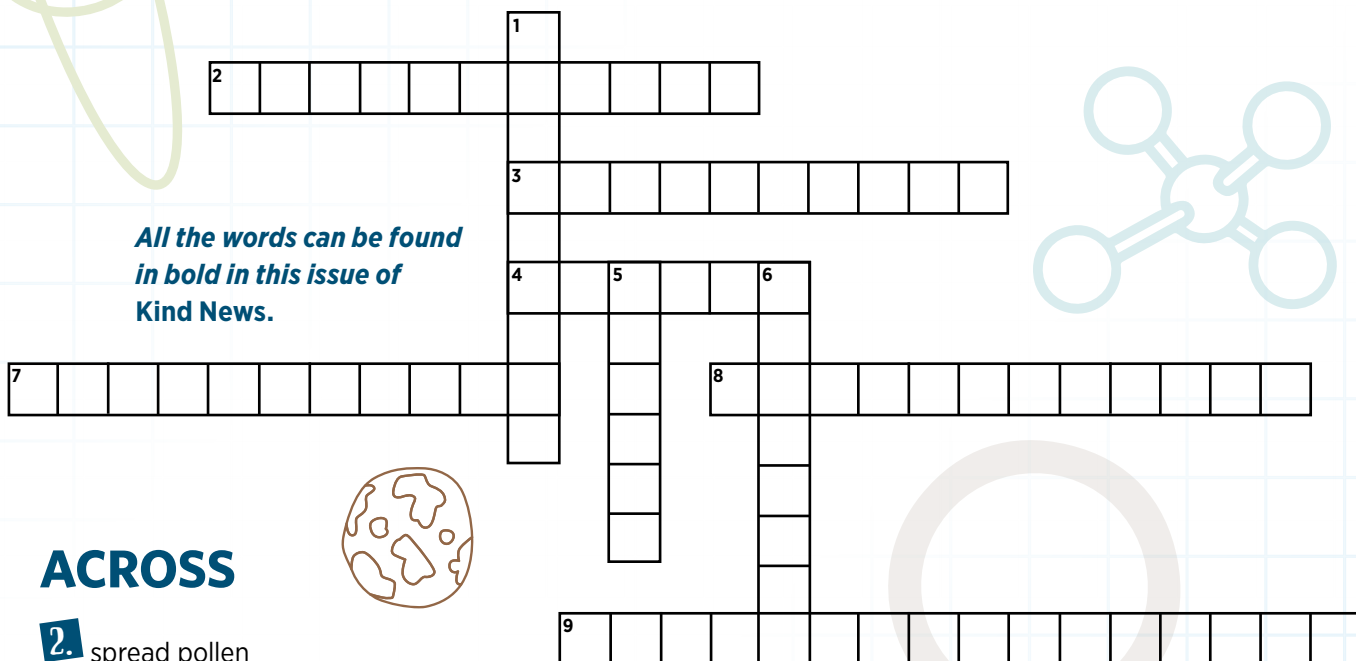
# SUMMER

# SCIENCE

# PUZZLE



*All the words can be found  
in bold in this issue of  
Kind News.*



## ACROSS

- 2. spread pollen
- 3. chemicals that kill insects
- 4. sugary fluid
- 7. \_\_\_\_\_ cooling — removing heat by changing water to gas
- 8. studies insects
- 9. controlling temperature

## DOWN

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ bees tunnel holes into wood
- 5. a group of bees
- 6. an infection caused by fungus

Created by Puzzlemaker at [DiscoveryEducation.com](http://DiscoveryEducation.com)



**ANSWER:**

**BECAUSE THEY USE HONEY COMBS!**



# To the **RESCUE!**

Two guinea pigs find a new home!



## Meet Lily and Violet

Lily and Violet were baby guinea pigs given to two young girls as gifts from their grandmother. While the granddaughters' mother initially agreed to keep Lily and Violet, the guinea pigs developed **ringworm**, an infection caused by fungus. She found that it was too difficult to care for the guinea pigs and handle all of the duties of her job. She tried to return the guinea pigs to the pet store where they were purchased, but too much time had passed, so the store would not take them back. No rescue organization would take them either because of the ringworm infection. Finally, she contacted Our Companions Animal Rescue, an

animal rescue and sanctuary based in Ashford, Connecticut. Valerie Bodner was able to **foster**, or temporarily care for, Lily and Violet until they were ready to be adopted. Valerie helped nurse the guinea pigs back to health. After passing their medical exams, Lily and Violet were placed up for adoption and found their "forever" home with the Olivo family. Their daughter Ava takes care of them and makes sure they have the love and attention they need.

"We are thrilled to report that Lily and Violet are leading happy and healthy lives with their new family," says Caroline Gaetano from Our Companions Animal Rescue.

## Kind Questions ?

Now that you've read **Kind News**, challenge yourself with these questions.

1. How did you feel about bees before reading "The Buzz About Bees"? Did your attitude towards bees change after reading the article? Why or why not?
2. After reading Curiosity Corner, "Why Do Dogs Pant," were you surprised to hear that dogs don't sweat the way that we do? Why or why not? What can you do to help prevent dogs from being put in danger in hot cars?

Have a story to share about something kind you've done? Tell us about it at [www.redrover.org/shareyourstory](http://www.redrover.org/shareyourstory).



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