

kind News

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Help For HOWLERS



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? Where's Raja?
Find Raja, from *The
Restricted Adventures
of Raja* app, hidden
in *Kind News*.



PEACE on a LEASH

Is dog walking more frustrating than fun? A dog who pulls can be unsafe for people and other dogs. Thankfully, there is a better way!

You can teach your dog **loose leash walking**, says RedRover's Devon Krusko. It's a way to train a dog to walk with a collar and **slack** on the leash, or lots of space on a long leash. That means the leash will droop a little with no pulling. The dog is free to move, and so are you! Here is a how-to from Animal Humane Society. Be sure to go with an adult!

- 1.** Get in position. Hold treats on the side you want your dog to walk on. Hold the leash in your other hand, on the other side of your body.
- 2.** Take a step. Stop, and give the dog a treat at your side. Repeat. Do this until your dog is looking up at you for more. Then, take two steps.
- 3.** Know when to stop. If the dog pulls, stop walking. Call him back to your side, take two steps, and treat again. Keep going, taking more steps between treats!

Keep at it. Don't give up and enjoy stress-free walks with your favorite pup!



Still need help? A "no-pull" harness straps around a dog's chest and attaches to a leash in the front. When a dog pulls forward, the harness brings the dog back to the person with the leash. Harnesses can be uncomfortable for dogs, but some are better than others. Krusko recommends the Easy Walk® and Freedom No-Pull brands.



DID YOU KNOW? Many animal shelters will give harnesses for dogs who need them!

MUTTS
by
Patrick McDonnell

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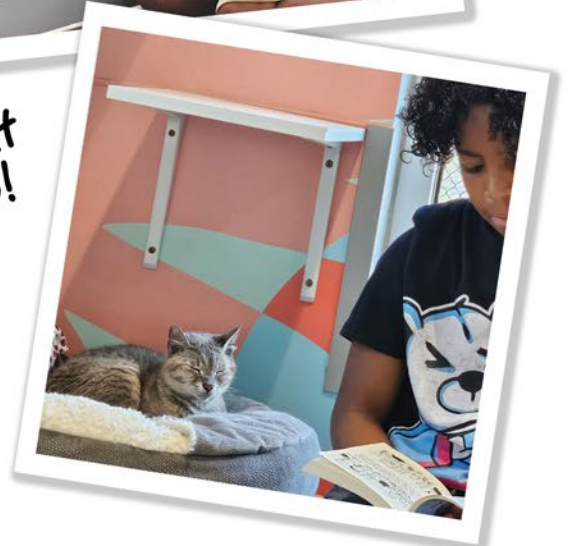


100 in Reading

When Nehemiah Turner arrives at his local animal shelter, he writes his name and the time on a page of a binder. He finds a dog or cat and opens a book. The dogs will stop barking. The animals lay down and listen. Eleven-year-old Nehemiah is a “pawsitive reader” for Jacksonville Humane Society near his home in Florida.

“It feels good,” he says. “It’s calming for the animals.” Reading to dogs has also helped him. Before becoming a pawsitive reader, he struggled in English class. His grades were Bs, Cs, and Ds. Just a couple months after starting to **volunteer**, or give his time more than two years ago, Nehemiah achieved honor roll at school. He began reading chapter books in addition to graphic novels. By the end of last school year, he’d achieved all As.

A sixth grader, Nehemiah is now a history maker at Jacksonville Humane. He logged his 100th hour reading, the first Pawsitive Reader to do so! If you ask him what’s next, he’ll tell you 200 hours. It’s about more than numbers, though. “I want to help them get adopted,” he says. On the days he volunteers, many visitors come to meet the dogs. They see them calm and with a friend, not barking and upset. And that makes all the difference. The work is easy with dogs like Jazzie who is lulled to sleep by Nehemiah’s story. “Bye Jazzie. I hope you have a great day. I hope you sleep well.”



Great Job!



Want to hear the articles read aloud?
View our digital issue at
KindNews.org/nov26.

The Pawsitive Reading program is made possible thanks to The Jim Moran Foundation.



A Home for



*The RedRover team
Johnson worked with*



*Johnson helps
build an enclosure
for Billie the wolf.*

THIS SPREAD: WOLF PHOTO: JULIE LAWRENCE/WOLF HAVEN; ALL OTHER PHOTOS: REDROVER.

HOWLERS

“It was the wildest sound,” says Ketia “Tia” Johnson, who put down her tools and listened. Last summer, she was building a new fence at Wolf Haven in Washington with RedRover and Greater Good Charities. “A wolf started howling,” she says. “And then, they all were.”

“Wolves are a **keystone species** or type of animal,” says Emily Evans at Wolf Haven International. “They affect many other animals around them: prey like deer and elk, small mammals, fish, birds, and plants.” Wolf Haven cares for wolves from zoos or homes who need a new place to live. They also teach the public about them.

Johnson worked on the fencing of an **enclosure**, or space, for a wolf named Billie and her new friend, Nicky. Billie was rescued from the pet trade, while Nicky came from a zoo in Minnesota. Johnson had to carefully measure, cut, and attach chainlink to fence posts. “Because wolves can dig and climb better than dogs, the fence had to be very tall,” she says.

Others on the “build” project created an **enrichment platform** for the wolves. **Enrichment** is a process that improves an animal’s environment or care. It lets an animal do what her species does in the wild. The platforms are giant wooden squares with benches for the animals to climb on and look over the land. “They let them get a better view,” says Evans. “They like to watch for neighbor wolves and animal care staff.”



WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP WOLVES?

“You can start now,” says Johnson. Study hard in science and math classes. “Math is a big one,” she says. “If you make a mistake when measuring a fence, you may come up short on material.” Johnson even used addition and subtraction of fractions in her fence work. Learn about wolves in books, articles, and videos. Movies often show them chasing people, but does that happen in real life? “By learning and sharing facts about wolves – not fantasies,” says Evans, “you are helping to shape the way people think about and understand them.”

Build It

CROSSWORD

In this issue, you read about animals and people building and solving problems. For each clue, find a bold word in this issue. *Psst!* Some words may be on pages 7 and 8. We've helped with the first one!

ACROSS

2. space where an animal lives

5. a place where animals are cared for and live safely

6. to live with a very small amount of space

DOWN

1. a way of making an animal's life better

3. the drooping of a leash during loose leash walking

4. hole made by a gopher to raise young and store food



Ask a Veterinarian!

Do you have a question for a doctor trained to treat animals? Visit KindNews.org/kids to send us a question. It may appear with an answer in a future issue!



ROOTING FOR GOPHERS!

When you see a little pile of dirt in a yard or field, a tiny farmer may be near! **Pocket gophers** are small animals who live in the Great Plains and parts of West and Southeast America. They get their name from the furry cheek pouches, or “pockets,” they use to carry food. Pocket gophers spend most of their lives underground, where they are safe from predators. They dig long tunnels with their strong claws and large front teeth. They create **burrows**, or holes for raising their young and storing food. As they dig, they munch on roots.

Scientists at the University of Florida found that sometimes, gophers eat only part of the root and leave the rest behind. In some plants, the rest of the root can grow back, giving the animal another snack later. They think gopher tunnels let air and water reach the roots, helping them grow. Gopher poop also adds **nutrients**, or food that helps plants grow. That means gophers may be helping to grow their own food, much like human farmers!

What do you think

it feels like to
be a gopher moving
through the ground?



CRITTER CLUES

- 1 I am a **solitary** animal. I live alone except when I am raising my babies.
- 2 I am a predator who can catch animals larger than me, 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.
- 7 Sometimes people confuse me with the lynx, but I am smaller and our tails look different.

WHAT ANIMAL AM I?

(Write your answer below.)

Meet Tutu

Most turkeys live indoors on large farms, crowded with many others. They are **confined**, with a very small amount of space for each animal. One young turkey from a farm like this was bought by a New York City college student. The student named her Tutu, but could not keep her at college. Farm Sanctuary was called to help. The group has a **sanctuary** in New York's countryside. It's a place where farm animals are cared for and live safely.

Now, Tutu is free to **forage** or peck grass for food. She can **perch** on branches or bars, and spend time in the sun. Tutu is seven years old and a good friend of caregiver Kayla Perry's. "When I come in to her flock, she immediately wants to know what I'm doing," says Perry. "She checks our medical bags and digs around our buckets. And she always wants to problem-solve." Perry gives her puzzle toys, sometimes giving her meals in toys she has to kick around to get food from. But perhaps Perry's favorite thing about Tutu is how friendly she is with her flock mates and people, too. "Another turkey used to peck at us when we walked into her space. Tutu would always get in between and defend us."

Did you know that turkeys were almost the national bird? Visit KindNews.org/kids to find out more!

Fun Fact!

People can "adopt" a turkey like Tutu. They give a donation to Farm Sanctuary's Adopt a Turkey Project. It pays for a turkey's medical care, toys, and other needs.

KIND QUESTIONS

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

1. After reading "A Home for Howlers,"

- a. Have you seen wolves in books, movies, or shows? What were they like? Do the wolves in the article seem different? How?
- b. Would you rather build something for a wolf, or teach others about them? Why?

2. How are the sanctuaries in "Home for Howlers" and "Meet Tutu" the same? How are they different?

3. If you could be an animal from this issue, which one would you be? Why?

- a. a dog walking with a no-pull harness ("Peace on a Leash")
- b. a wolf on an enrichment platform ("Home for Howlers")
- c. a turkey solving a puzzle toy ("Meet Tutu")