

# Be Kind to Animals Week

## 4 Simple Ways to Make a Better World for Animals

In 1915, American Humane initiated Be Kind to Animals Week® and launched a national poster contest for children. Now more than 100 years later, this special weeklong observance is still celebrated each year during the first full week of May and is the nation's longest-running humane education campaign.

Building a better world for all of us begins with a few simple actions and American Humane, the country's first national humane organization, is challenging people to commit to protecting and improving the lives of millions of animals during this year's "Be Kind to Animals Week" (May 5-11, 2019).

American Humane is asking animal advocates to pledge to do four simple things to better the lives of animals:

1. buy humanely raised foods with the American Humane Certified™ seal to support farm animals;
2. adopt one of the more than 6 million animals abandoned to animal shelters each year;
3. watch movies and shows that contain the "No Animals Were Harmed®" end credit supporting the 100,000 animal actors who entertain and educate us in film and television each year;
4. and visit Humane Certified™ zoos, aquariums, and conservation centers caring for the many endangered and disappearing species of the world.

Being kind to animals is something we should all try to do year round. Not just to our own pets (if we're lucky enough to have one) but to wild animals too. Create an inviting space in your yard and garden for butterflies, hummingbirds and other creatures. If wildlife comes too close to home, look for ways to coexist or to protect your property humanely. Here's a link to simple Do's and Don'ts - [www.americanhumane.org/fact-sheet/wildlife/](http://www.americanhumane.org/fact-sheet/wildlife/)

American Humane will be sharing humane messages throughout the week and encouraging people to commit to kindness by sharing 'Be Kind to Animals Week' content using the hashtag #BeKindToAnimalsWeek across social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



### Newspaper Activities:

Look through recent editions of the newspaper, in-print or online, for stories about animals. As a class group the stories you find into categories - pets, farm animals, and wild animals.

Many comic strips use animals as the characters - some even talk and act like humans. Find one you like and change their words to help promote one of the 4 Simple Ways to Make A Better World for Animals described in this feature.

### About American Humane

American Humane is the country's first national humane organization, founded in 1877. For more information, please visit [www.americanhumane.org](http://www.americanhumane.org).

*This feature is just one part of this newspaper's Newspaper in Education (NIE) program.*

*A note of thanks to American Humane for the content of this educational feature.*