



San Diego Humane Society's Critter Kids NEWS

Volume 4 / Issue 4

Welcome to San Diego Humane Society's Critter Kids News. We hope you have fun learning all about pets and wildlife in San Diego!

SAN DIEGO CAMPUS

5500 Gaines Street
San Diego, CA 92110

ESCONDIDO CAMPUS

3500 Burnet Drive
Escondido, CA 92027

OCEANSIDE CAMPUS

2905 San Luis Rey Road (dogs)
Oceanside, CA 92058

572 Airport Road (cats, small animals)

Oceanside, CA 92058

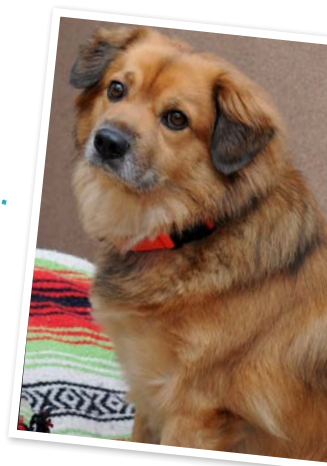
(619) 299-7012
sdhumane.org



Shelter Mews

As our pets age, it is important that we remember to give them lots of love while also paying attention to their changing needs.

Older pets may need more rest and less play time, but they will still need special time with you. Your pet may be able to tell you what they prefer to do, so watch their body language and try to find the right activity that they will enjoy. If playing fetch is too active for your dog, she may prefer taking shorter but more frequent walks with you instead. If your kitty needs an extra-long nap, let him sleep, and then when he wakes up, you can have his favorite toy ready to play with! Show your senior pet you care!



Wildlife Window

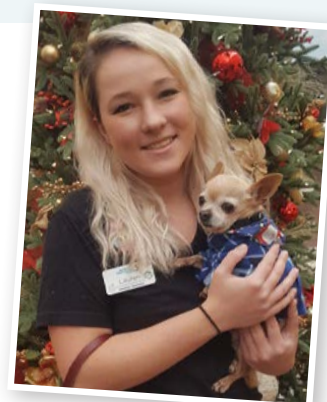
Did you know that Project Wildlife cares for wildlife that cannot go back to the wild?

These special animals came in badly injured and were not able to survive on their own if released. In addition to their injuries, these animals also had an unlikely and special connection to humans, allowing them to become education ambassadors who now teach San Diegans about their cousins in the wild. While with us, they spend their lives in the most natural environment we can provide for them. We understand that they are still wild animals, so we do not treat them like pets. We provide them with the right food and proper enrichment to keep their minds and bodies active. This barn owl, Uguku, came into Project Wildlife in 2004 when he fell from his nest. He recently retired after doing education programs for 14 years and will live out his days receiving the same quality attention and care in his ambassador habitat.

Meet Our Staff

Meet Lauren Sharo

Lauren is an Adoption Counselor at San Diego Humane Society. Her role is to help educate the public about our mission and to provide resources on how to properly care for our furry, and sometimes not so furry, friends. Her favorite part of the job is helping adopters find their perfect match, especially when it's with one of our senior or long term animals! Lauren is pictured here with Doky, a 10 year old Chihuahua who is waiting for his new home.





Lend a Paw

Make an enriching toy for your senior pet! Snuffle mats are a fun puzzle to keep your pets thinking and using their senses to find a yummy treat, and they don't require a lot of physical activity!



Materials:

- Rubber Sink Mat (12" x 15" works well)
- Fleece material (about 1.5 yards)

Instructions:

1. Cut the fleece into strips about 1" wide by 6" long.
2. Starting at the edge of the mat, take a strip of fleece and push one end through the first hole of the first row and the other through the second. Flip the mat over and tie the strip in a knot.
3. Repeat this process until all the holes in the mat have been filled in both horizontally and vertically (up and down). When looking at the top, the fleece should be thick enough so that none of the mat is showing.
4. Place treats throughout the fleece and watch your pet snuffle around to find them!

Brain Teaser

Teacher's box: Use this worksheet to build extrapolation skills while focusing on the long-term responsibility of owning a pet.

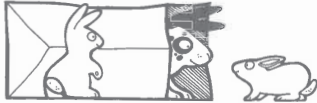
KIND Name _____

Think First


Before you get a pet, think about how long your pet may live. Imagine that you get a rabbit when you are 9 years old. If the rabbit lives for 8 years, you will have _____ him until you are 17 years old. How might your life change in that time? Will you always be able to care for your rabbit?

Fill in the blanks in these sentences.


I am _____ years old.



1. If I got a guinea pig today and he lived for 6 years, I would have him until I was _____ (your age + 6) years old.
2. If I got a dog today and she lived for 15 years, I would have her until I was _____ years old.
3. If I got a hamster today and he lived for 2 years, I would have him until I was _____ years old.
4. If I got a parakeet today and she lived for 12 years, I would have her until I was _____ years old.
5. If I got a rat today and he lived for 5 years, I would have him until I was _____ years old.
6. If I got a cat today and she lived for 18 years, I would have her until I was _____ years old.



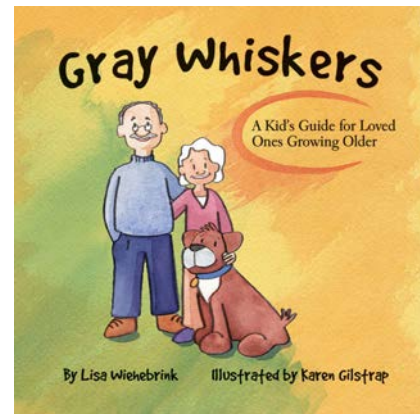
On the back, list at least three ways your life could be different five years from now.



Color Me



Book Recommendation



KIND Teacher / September 1996 15



SPRING CAMP: MARCH 25-29

Check out our website at sdhumane.org for other fun events going on at San Diego Humane Society!