

Hello!! Welcome to the sixth issue of *Animals & Us*. Kids all across Canada are reading this newspaper. Visit our web site at www.cfhs.ca/Animals&Us for the online version. Let us know what you think. We want to hear from you. You can write to the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies at 30 Concourse Gate, Suite 102 Nepean, ON, K2E 7V7 or e-mail to animals&us@cfhs.ca.

Jigsaw Puzzle World

The world is like a giant jigsaw puzzle. Every person, every animal and every plant is a piece of the puzzle. So is every rock and river and mountain.

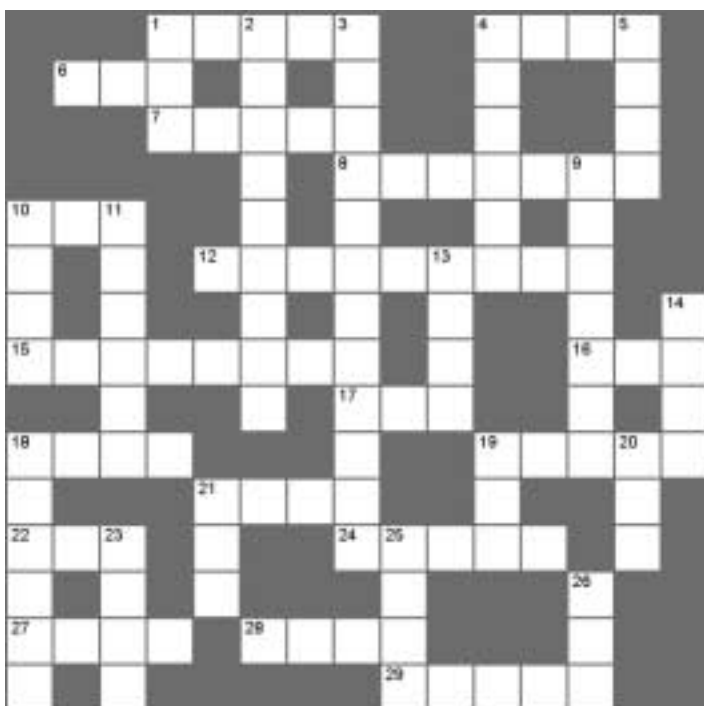
Have you ever finished a jigsaw puzzle and found there was a piece missing? The picture is spoiled by the hole where the missing piece should be. And what if there were lots of pieces missing?

Animals that go extinct are missing pieces. So are wetlands that are drained or forests that are cut down.

You can help keep the jigsaw puzzle complete. You can be kind to people who are just like you and to people who are different. You can care about cute animals and animals that are not so cute. You can respect our forests, swamps and fields.

You are an important piece of our jigsaw puzzle world.

Crossword



Clues Across

- 1. What the cow does to her newborn calf. (See p. 4)
- 4. Rabbits make good ones.
- 6. Where A.A. Milne met Winnie. (See p. 3)
- 7. Type of bear on a two dollar coin. (See p. 4)
- 8. Treat as important. (See p. 1)
- 10. You __ help.
- 12. Someone who works without pay. (See p. 3)
- 15. What a male rabbit should be. (See p. 1)
- 16. Honey maker.
- 17. Take your pets to the vet when they are this.
- 18. What a rabbit may do to electric cords. (See p. 1)
- 19. Don't let your dog ride on the back of this. (See p. 4)
- 21. One clue to identify a bird. (See p. 2)
- 22. What a dog may injure sticking his head out a car window. (See p. 4)
- 24. Another clue to identify a bird. (See p. 2)
- 27. A group of cattle. (See p. 4)
- 28. Place to adopt an animal. (See p. 3)
- 29. Type of cow. (See p. 4)

Clues Down

- 1. Rabbit ears that lie flat. (See p. 1)
- 2. Owner of the original Winnie. (See p. 4)
- 3. Another clue to identifying a bird. (See p. 2)
- 4. One piece of the jigsaw puzzle world. (See p. 1)
- 5. __ belts keep us safe. (See p. 4)
- 9. Animal on a quarter. (See p. 2)
- 10. Nickel or dime. (See p. 2)
- 11. Animals and the environment. (See p. 2)
- 13. Important part of a dog or cat.
- 14. What a bird eats with.
- 18. Group of calves. (See p. 4)
- 19. Turn it off to help the environment. (See p. 2)
- 20. Animal that is a good mother. (See p. 4)
- 21. Alternative to milk and meat. (See p. 4)
- 23. Rabbits have big ones.
- 25. One cow. (See p. 4)
- 26. Good food for rabbits. (See p. 1)

Answers on p. 4

Rabbits Right at Home

You've heard of house cats and house dogs. How about house rabbits? A house rabbit is litter box trained and lives in the house like a dog or cat. The family in the comic strip *For Better or for Worse* has a house rabbit as well as two dogs. Watch for the rabbit next time you read the comics.



House rabbits live from seven to twelve years. They can be as small as guinea pigs or as large as cats. They can have stand-up ears or lop ears, short coats or long ones. Altogether there are 45 different breeds of rabbits. Many pet rabbits are mixed breeds.

Rabbits make good pets but they need as much care and love as a dog or cat. And just like dogs and cats, they should be spayed or neutered. Plan to spend time grooming and playing with your rabbit as well as feeding him and cleaning his litter box and living area.

Different rabbits have different personalities. Getting to know your rabbit's personality is part of the fun. Some are quiet and shy. Some are very active. Some like lots of petting, others don't. Being prey animals, rabbits are easily frightened by loud noises or people towering over them. Lying on the floor beside your rabbit is a good way to get acquainted.

Keeping rabbits safe

Lots of toys. That's what your rabbit needs to keep him out of trouble. Rabbits like to dig and chew. First you have to bunny-proof your house. Then you have to provide toys your rabbit can chew, hit, climb, dig, scrunch up and throw around. Balls, cardboard tubes, caps from laundry detergent, baby rattles – all make good rabbit toys.

Bunny-proof every room your rabbit can go in. Cover all electrical and telephone cords with plastic tubing. Find out if any of your houseplants are poisonous and move them out of the room.

It's safest not to let your rabbit run around unless you are there to make sure he stays out of trouble. For safety, he needs a roomy cage with a litter box, water, food dish, warm bed, and toys. When you can watch him, leave the cage door open. When no one is home, leave the door closed with the rabbit inside. Make sure, though, that he gets out for several hours each day. Visit the BC SPCA web site to learn how to build a habitat for your rabbit's safe place. (You can link to it and other web sites from the online *Animals & Us* at www.cfhs.ca/Animals&Us)

Keeping poop in its place

Teach your rabbit to use a litter box. You'll need to use litter made of paper instead of regular cat litter. It helps to put some hay in the box as well. Even a litter-trained rabbit will poop as he runs around. Luckily, rabbit poop is like pellets that you can clean up easily. Make sure you do!

If you think you would like a rabbit, learn as much as you can first. Look in your library for books about rabbits. Go to www.cfhs.ca/Animals&Us for a link to a web site with lots of information about house rabbits. When you're ready to adopt a rabbit, visit your local animal shelter.



Do you have an animal riddle or joke to share? E-mail it to animals&us@cfhs.ca



- Q What does a cat do when it gets mad?
- A It has a hissy fit!
- Q What do you give a sick bird?
- A Tweetment!

Are You a Numismatist?

That's a fancy word for a coin collector. Canadian coin collectors would know that many Canadian coins have animals on them. We even have one coin named after the animal on its back • the loonie. Can you match the coin with its animal?

loon	\$2
beaver	quarter
caribou	nickel
polar bear	\$1

Answer on p. 4

Ask your family if you can search in their change for other coins with animals. Look at the two dollar coins. Can you find one with just a polar bear and one with cubs as well? The polar bear with cubs was minted in 2000 for the millenium.

Special coins were also minted in 1967 to celebrate Canada's 100th birthday. They were designed by a

famous Canadian artist, Alex Colville. Look for a penny with a dove, a nickel with a rabbit, a dime with a fish, a quarter with a bobcat and a fifty-cent piece with a wolf. There's also a silver dollar with a Canada goose. If you find one of them, ask if you can trade a regular coin for it.



Remember the loon? It's on the back of the current \$20 bill as well as the \$1 coin. The \$50 bill has a snowy owl and the \$100 bill has a Canada goose. You might find an older \$50 bill with a picture of the RCMP Musical Ride on the back.

Have you ever seen a \$1000 bill? It has pine grosbeaks on the back. That's a lot of money in one piece of paper and most of us will never see one. The Bank of Canada isn't making any more.

Start a collection of animal coins. Make a display with a write-up about each animal.

You can find pictures of the different coins and paper money on the internet. Go to www.cfhs.ca/Animals&Us to link to the Royal Canadian Mint.

Paper money

Our paper money has animals too. There used to be a \$2 bill. The last one was issued in 1996 and had a picture of robins on the back. The new \$5 bill issued this year has children playing hockey on the back, but the one before has a picture of a kingfisher. Can you find a \$10 bill with an osprey on the back?

Make a Mobile

Make a coat hanger mobile of the animals shown on Canadian coins.

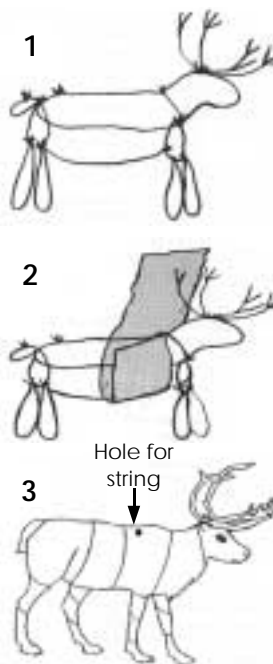


Materials:

pictures of a caribou, beaver, loon and polar bear
thin wire or pipe cleaners
string
coat hanger
aluminum foil
scissors
black marker

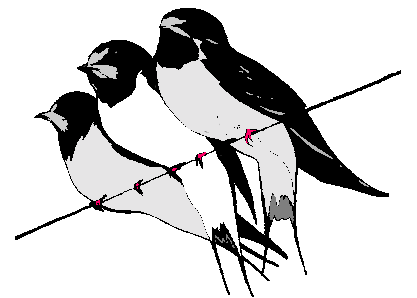
Directions (Hint: Work on one animal at a time.)

- Using a picture as a guide, bend the wire into the basic shape of your animal. Be very careful when working with wire.
- Cut the aluminum foil into strips about 5 cm wide. Wrap the foil around the wire frame and press it together.
- Continue until the body and legs are completely covered. Draw on eyes with the marker.
- Use a pin to make a small hole in the back of each animal just below the wire frame. Thread string through and hang the figures from the coat hanger. (You'll have to experiment to find the centre of balance. When you hang the figure from its centre of balance, it will hang straight.)



Use the Clues

Bird watching is fun. You'll be surprised at how many different species you will see once you start looking. How can you tell one bird from another? Use the following clues to help you. Make notes and draw sketches so you can remember what you have seen.



Size

Is it the size of a robin, a sparrow or a crow?

Special markings

Look for wing bars, different coloured caps on heads, white eye rings, tail markings, belly and throat markings.

Shape

Look at the shape of the body, legs and feet, tail, wings and beaks.

Surroundings

Where is the bird: in a tree (on trunk, branch or top), on the ground, in a field, forest, marsh, bog, on a fence post, on or by fresh or salt water, by a house or barn, at a bird feeder?

Sweep

How does it fly? Does it dart or swoop or fly smoothly?

Step

Does it run, hop or walk?

Songs and calls

What noise does it make: chip-chip, caw-caw, peter-peter, thief-thief, a trill, a peep, a quack?

Species identification book or chart

Look for a simple bird guide book or bird chart. Use the clues you have gathered to identify the birds you have observed.

10 Ways to Help the Earth

- Act kind, speak kind, think kind.
- Recycle.
- Walk or ride your bike instead of getting a drive.
- Observe wildlife – don't disturb.
- Turn off the lights when you leave the room.
- Turn off the tap.
- Pick up after your dog.
- Keep your cat inside.
- Stick to the trails when you're hiking.
- Show respect for nature.

Jigsaw Puzzle

Would you like a fun computer jigsaw puzzle? Look for the jigsaw icon. Send an answer to one of our questions and we'll e-mail you the URL of a secret web page. (You have to know the URL to find it.) There, with your parent's permission, you can download the **Animals & Us** jigsaw puzzle to your computer. This is a special puzzle just for kids who participate!



Did You Know?

Quick Fact 1

Cheetahs are the only members of the cat family that can't retract their claws. They also purr but can't roar.

Quick Fact 2

Bats live on every continent except Antarctica.

Quick Fact 3

A Holstein's spots are like a fingerprint or snowflake. No two cows have exactly the same pattern of spots.

Quick Fact 4

The hummingbird is the only bird that can fly backwards.

Quick Fact 5

An elephant's trunk is a very sensitive organ similar to our fingers.

Quick Fact 6

Ants are social insects and live in colonies which may have as many as 500,000 individuals.

At the Animal Shelter

Many dogs and cats have good homes with families that love them, but sadly, many don't. Humane societies and SPCAs run animal shelters. Shelters are safe places for unwanted or abused pets. They provide temporary homes while shelter workers try to find the animals loving homes where they can live for the rest of their lives.

Lots of people work at an animal shelter. Some are paid staff and others are volunteers.

Kennel workers look after the animal guests. They do the very important but messy jobs like cleaning the kennels.

Adoption counsellors help people who want to adopt an animal find just the right animal for their family.

Shelter veterinarians, helped by veterinary technicians, make sure the animals are healthy. They treat wounds and illnesses, give inoculations and, in some shelters, perform spay/neuter operations.

Humane educators teach people about animals and how to look after them properly. Educators sometimes visit schools to talk to classes like yours. Other times they lead tours of the shelter.

Because humane societies depend on volunteers to do a lot of the work, many have a volunteer coordinator. This person organizes the volunteers to make sure the work gets done and the volunteers have fun at the same time.

And then there's the boss. The person in charge of everything that happens may be called the shelter manager or the executive director or even the CEO (Chief Executive Officer).

All the different workers have one thing in common – they love animals.

Winnie the Pooh, Eh

Winnie the Pooh was Canadian!

The character was based on a real bear. A.A. Milne, the man who wrote the Winnie the Pooh books, based his famous character on a black bear in the London Zoo.

The bear, called Winnie, had belonged to a Canadian soldier named Lieutenant Harry Colebourn. Back then, nobody saw anything wrong with taking an orphan bear cub as a pet. Now we know better, and it's illegal in most provinces to keep wild animals without a permit.

It was 1914 at the beginning of World War I. Lieutenant Colebourn was travelling to Quebec from his home in Manitoba to join the Canadian Army Veterinary Corps.

Back then, horses were used in war to pull big guns and other equipment. Today armies have mechanics to repair the vehicles. Then they had veterinarians to look after the horses that got injured and sick. War was awful for animals as well as people.

Lieutenant Colebourn had to change trains in White River, Ontario. He saw a man on the station platform with a bear cub. He learned that the man was a trapper who had killed the cub's mother. Feeling sorry for the cub, he bought her for \$20.

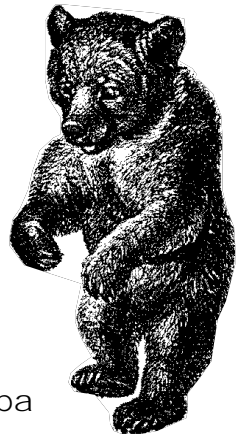
He named her Winnie after his home town of Winnipeg. Winnie became the mascot of Lieutenant Colebourn's Infantry Brigade.

Soon the troops were sent to France to fight in the war. On the way through London, England, Lieutenant Colebourn left Winnie at the London Zoo. He didn't think it would be fair to take her into the battlefields of France.

Winnie lived at the London Zoo until she died in 1934. That's where A.A. Milne and his son Christopher Robin met her.

Everyone knows Winnie the Pooh from A.A. Milne's stories. But not many people know what you do – that Winnie was a real Canadian bear who wasn't at all like the story-book Winnie the Pooh.

You can see photographs of the real Winnie and her human friends on the internet. Go to www.cfhs.ca/Animals&Us for a link.



Match-Making

Here are some animals at a shelter and some people who want to adopt them. Which animal would be the best choice for each family? Use each animal only once as a best choice. Which would not be a good choice? Write the number of the best and worst matches for each family in the boxes. You'll notice that there are more animals looking for homes than people to adopt them. That's why it's so important to spay or neuter your pets.

Answers on p. 4

Animals looking for new homes:

- 1 a small active dog 2 a rabbit 3 an elderly cat 4 a guinea pig
5 a kitten 6 a large dog with a long coat 7 a parakeet 8 a puppy

People looking for new companion animals:

- | | Best Match | Worst Match |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. A retired couple who enjoy long walks | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. A family with three active children | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. A young woman who lives by herself in an apartment | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. A couple with no children who are often away from home | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. A family with a ten-year-old who loves animals and building things | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



Choose one family. Imagine it's five years from now. Write a story about the animal they adopted and all the things that happened. Did they make a good choice or a poor choice? Send your story to animals&us@cfhs.ca.



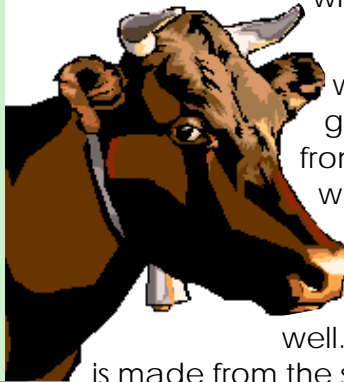
Cow Lingo

cow cattle heifer bull steer
calves bovine herd head

A cow is always female. Cattle is the collective noun for males or females. Do you know the words for the rest of the family? Fill in each blank with the correct word.

1. A group of cattle is called a _____.
2. Two _____ of cattle means two animals.
3. A _____ is young female, not yet a mother.
4. A mature male is called a _____.
5. A neutered male is called a _____.
6. Baby cattle are called _____.
7. _____ means *having to do with cattle*.

Answers at the bottom of the page



How Now, Brown Cow?

Chocolate milk comes from brown cows. True or false? You say false, of course. Actually it's a trick question! Some chocolate milk does come from brown cows. Jersey cows are brown. It's just not chocolate milk when it comes out.

Most of the milk we buy in the grocery store comes from Holstein cows, which are black and white. Sometimes you can find goat milk on the shelf as well. Or soy milk, which is made from the soy plant and doesn't come from animals at all!

Like all mammals including humans, cows produce milk to feed their own babies. People raise cattle for milk or for meat. Those raised for milk are called dairy cattle, those raised for meat are called beef cattle. Dairy cows only feed their calves for a day or two. Then the calves are taken away and raised by the farmer and the milk is collected for people to drink. Beef cows look after their own calves.

Cows are good mothers. A cow looks after her calf, making sure it's

safe and has enough to eat. When the calf is first born, she smells it and licks it clean. She memorizes her calf's smell so she will be able to tell her calf from the others. Research has shown that cows remember their calves for a long time, perhaps for their whole lives.

When the calf is very young, the mother will leave it in a good spot while she goes off to graze. Then she comes back to that same spot so it can nurse. When the calf is a little older, she leaves it with other calves in a group or 'creche' while she grazes with the other mothers. The calves sleep and play together.

As calves get older, they eat more and more grass and drink less and less milk. Left with their mothers, calves will nurse until they're eight or nine months old. It's the cows who decide when it's time to wean and won't let their calves nurse anymore. Usually, though, ranchers don't wait until the cows decide. They wean the calves when they're five or six months old.

So next time you drink milk, chocolate or otherwise, think of the cow and her calf.

Your Turn

What activities are fun for some people but not fun for animals?

Everyone likes to have fun. Sometimes, though, what is fun for one person is the opposite for someone else. For example, you might consider it fun to make jokes about someone who speaks with a lisp, but they are hurt by your words.

There are many activities involving animals that may be fun for some people but aren't fun for animals. Rodeos and hunting are two. What others can you think of?

Write your answer to this question and send it to **Animals & Us**. You could see your name in print!

You can e-mail your answer to animals&us@cfhs.ca or you can go to www.cfhs.ca/Animals&Us and write your answer there. You can also mail your answer to the CFHS office. The address is on the front page. Be sure to give your name and city.

Here's an answer to our last question:

If your province adopted an official domestic animal, what should it be?

I live in Ontario and I think that the cow should be Ontario's animal. The cow may not be the most popular animal but they do give us meat to eat and milk to drink. And people know milk is a very good source of calcium, so I think the cow should be Ontario's animal and that it would be recognized for the good creature it is.

Andrew, Listowel, Ontario



Highway Hounds

When you go in the car, you know to fasten your seat belt. When you were younger, your parents put you in a car seat to protect you.

How about your dog or cat? What protects them in an accident? Did you know there are seat belts for dogs too? They are actually harnesses that you fasten to the regular car seat belt.

Another way to keep pets safe in the car is a travel crate.

Safety for you and them. Would your mom or dad let you climb in their lap while they're driving? Of course not – not because they don't love you, but because they do. It's not safe to disturb the driver. Same thing goes for animals. The person driving doesn't need a furry creature in her lap!

Most dogs love to stick their heads out an open window. They're nose-reading all the odours in the air. Have you ever seen a dog leaning out so far you'd swear he would topple right out the window? Letting your dog do that is not a good idea. Even if he doesn't actually fall out, he could get flying dirt in his eyes.

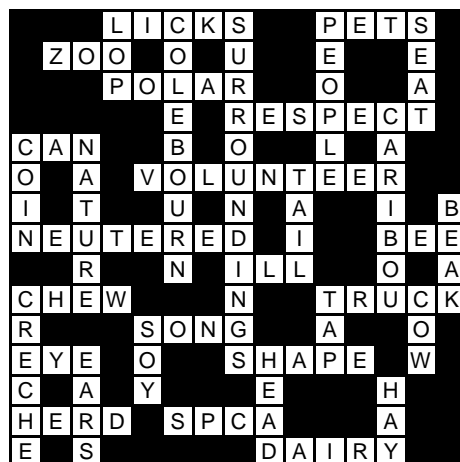
It's even more dangerous to let your dog ride in the back of a pickup truck. If the driver stops suddenly, the dog will keep right on going. Or he might try jumping out to chase another dog you drive by. Jumping from moving vehicles might work in the movies, but it doesn't in real life.

Taking your pets for a car ride? Be sure to buckle them up too.



Answers to Puzzles

CROSSWORD (p. 1)



COINS (p. 2)

loon – \$1 (loonie)
beaver – nickel
caribou – quarter
polar bear – \$2

MATCH-MAKING (p. 3)

Answers may vary.

1. Best match # 6. A large dog would be good company on long walks. Being retired, they would have time to groom the long coat. Worst match # 4 or 7.
2. Best match # 1. The small active dog would enjoy playing. The large dog may be too much work for mum. Worst match # 2, 3, 4, 5 or 7.
3. Best match # 2, 5 or 7. All fit well in an apartment. Worst match # 8. It's harder to house train a puppy in an apartment.
4. Best match # 3. An older cat would be best suited to staying by itself. Worst match # 8. A puppy needs someone to be at home.
5. Best match # 4. He could build habitats for the guinea pig. This could be a good home for any of the animals.

COW LINGO (p. 4)

1. herd 2. head 3. bull 4. steer 5. calves 6. bovine