Dogs are related to wolves—have you ever heard a dog howl with a fire siren? People and dogs have been friends for more than 12,000 years! Dogs come in many shapes and sizes, but it doesn’t matter what they look like—a mixed-breed dog from the animal shelter can be smarter and sweeter than a purebred pooch. Dogs need lots of fresh water, good food, shelter, and attention. Have you played with your dog today?
Princesses
in fairy tales kiss frogs to turn them into princes. But frogs deserve credit for just being themselves! Frogs are important members of the natural world. Millions of frogs are captured and killed every year for school dissection and other uses. If you are asked to cut open a frog or other animal for a school project, tell your teacher you’d rather read a book, watch a film, or study a model or computer program instead.

DID YOU KNOW?

Some frogs can jump 100 times the length of their bodies.
Elephants live in close-knit family groups. They walk many miles to find food and places to wade. In circuses and zoos, they are often made to take people around on their backs, wear heavy costumes, or do silly or dangerous tricks. Behind the scenes, they are chained by one or two legs. By staying away from animal shows, you let business people know that you think keeping elephants chained up like bicycles is wrong.
In their natural forest homes, pigs use their strong snouts like shovels to dig for food. They cool off in mud on hot days. Pigs are as smart as dogs, but on “factory farms,” they are locked indoors in metal stalls that keep them from moving around or playing.

Instead of eating bacon, ham, or sausage, which come from pigs, try yummy veggie dogs!
Parrots love to be with other parrots. They have very loud voices, so they can call to each other through the trees. Parrots belong in the jungles, free to fly and be with lots and lots of other parrots, not in cages. Speak up for parrots. Tell people who have parrots to give them lots of attention and space to fly, explore, and exercise. But, make sure all doors and windows are shut first. Birds not used to being outside could get hurt if they escaped.
Did you know that chimpanzees can use sticks and rocks like spoons and hammers, and they can find plant medicines in the jungle? Some people put chimpanzees in cages, in laboratories, or train them to “act” in shows, or even keep them as “pets,” but chimpanzees want to live free. Look in your library for a book about how chimpanzee families take care of one another.
Did you know that lobsters can live to be more than 100 years old? They are also short-sighted, can be left-handed or right-handed, and like to walk—up to 100 miles a year! Lobsters killed for food are boiled alive, which is very painful. Next time you see a lobster tank in a grocery store or restaurant, tell the owner that lobsters belong in the ocean, not hot water!
Cows are lovely, gentle animals. But to keep making milk and cream, they have to keep on having baby calves. Right after they are born, these baby calves are taken from the mother cows and sent to calf factories to be fattened up for meat. It makes the mother cows very sad. Help cows and calves by drinking fruit juice instead of milk and eating Tofutti instead of ice cream.
Frisky foxes are members of the same family as dogs, and they like to do lots of the same things, like dig, bark, and play. Foxes are very clever. Some people think it’s “fun” to hunt foxes with dogs and horses. Others catch foxes in traps and kill them for their fur. You can help outfox the foxes’ foes by not buying toys or clothes made of fur.
Rats and mice are curious, friendly little animals whose natural home is in fields and woods. They scurry around, nibbling on berries and building nests for their babies. When people cut down too many trees, rats and mice have no place to go. Sometimes they slip through small holes in houses and find warmth and food inside. But they don't hurt people, and if they are taken outside, they'll find another place to live.

DID YOU KNOW?
Rats make beautiful and tidy nests out of cloth, paper, and straw.
Just like us, a chicken or turkey can be shy or friendly or scared or curious. Each one is special. And like kids, they love to run around outside and be with friends. Outside they can feel the sun and take dust baths and peck the ground for seeds.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Wild turkeys can fly up to 55 miles per hour.

Mother chickens talk to their babies when they are still in the eggs.

Nowadays most chickens and turkeys never get to do these things. They live crowded together inside meat and egg factories. Instead of chicken or turkey or eggs, eat spaghetti or peanut butter sandwiches.
Super-smart raccoons use their paws like people use their hands—they like to wash their food before they eat it. They look like bandits with black masks across their eyes. Their tails have rings around them and their fur is beautiful. Some people wear coats made from raccoons’ skins (it takes 27 raccoons to make one coat!). The easiest way to help raccoons is not to wear their fur (or coonskin caps!).
**Fishes** live in lakes, streams, and the seas. Some are long and brown, others are small and colorful. They use their lips to gather food and build their underwater homes. It sure hurts them when people catch them on sharp hooks! Fishes swim for miles every day and get bored when they are put in tanks (even big tanks!). The easiest way to help shy fishes is not to bother them or catch them. We can learn lots about them by reading books.
Wouldn’t it be awful, wouldn’t it be queer, to be playing in the woods and be shot by a deer? Some people kill animals like deer and call it “sport”; but a sport is an activity that involves people who want to play the game. Deer are shy, gentle creatures. If you know someone who hunts, try to persuade him or her to hunt with a camera instead of a gun. Animals “shot” with a camera can still go home to take care of their babies.
Soft, fuzzy bunnies make their homes by digging big tunnels under the ground. They come out at the end of the day to eat grass and clover. Just like us, bunnies have fun playing tag and chase. But some companies test shampoo by dripping it into rabbits' eyes. Many other companies don't do this.

For a list of the good companies, write:
PETA,
501 Front St.,
Norfolk, VA
23510.
For thousands of years people have loved the company of cats. Gentle petting, a warm lap, a comfortable warm bed, or a sunny window can make cats purr and purr. Cats like to run after crumpled-up paper balls and “dancing” string. If your family includes cats, give them lots of love and attention, and keep them safe indoors.