Humans and animals have a lot in common. Both are living beings who can feel emotions like fear and happiness, and both have likes and dislikes. You may be surprised to find out that you love many of the same things that animals love!

Do you love your friends and family? Many animals do, too. Goose families work together in a big group called a “gaggle,” and the birds look out for each other. Mother cows become very sad when their babies are taken away—some even jump over a fence to go and look for them. A mother hen turns her eggs over every few minutes and clucks softly to the chicks inside, who chirp back to her and to each other!

You probably also love to play games and hang out with your friends, and so do animals. Did you know that pigs enjoy listening to music? That’s right—and they can even play video games.

Rats are like humans, too. If you tickle them, they make a chirping noise that sounds like they’re giggling. Bunnies get lonely when they’re stuck outside in a hutch all alone with no toys—they need friends, space to run around in, and fun things to do.

It’s nice to cuddle up to loved ones in a warm, comfortable house at the end of the day, right? The animals who live with us, like cats and dogs, love to snuggle and be warm and comfortable, too—they can get cold and lonely outdoors. And other animals, even female whip spiders, also enjoy snuggling with their babies. Imagine how wonderful an eight-legged hug must feel!

We’re lucky to share the world with so many amazing animals who have feelings just like ours. You can show that you care about animals by speaking up for them to help them have a happy life filled with love.

Comprehension Questions

1. Which fact surprised you the most? Why?

2. Name one way that you would like to help animals.

3. Name two ways that animals and humans are the same.