

May 29, 2024

Jermall Wright, Ed.D.  
Superintendent  
Little Rock School District

Via e-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Dr. Wright:

I'm writing from [TeachKind](#), PETA's humane education division, which works with thousands of educators across the U.S. to bring compassion into their curricula. As communities nationwide are experiencing the phenomenal and rare dual emergence of cicadas this year, we encourage you to educate your students about the importance of extending kindness to these unique individuals.

Our [Crazy Cool Facts About Cicadas](#) factsheet and accompanying activities are designed to help teachers simultaneously develop students' academic skills and empathy for others while educating them about current events and environmental stewardship. These versatile resources feature inspiring facts and thought-provoking discussion questions and pair perfectly with our [Be Kind to All! cicada coloring sheet](#), providing a fun-filled lesson about these fascinating insects.

These worksheets are an ideal tool for instilling compassion and respect in young learners, supporting their understanding that every animal is someone, a unique individual deserving of a fulfilling life, regardless of their species or size. Fear and dislike often arise from a lack of knowledge and understanding, so exploring the world of insects like cicadas can ignite young learners' curiosity and promote a sense of responsibility toward *all* sentient beings. Discussion questions offer students a chance to practice empathy by asking themselves, "If I were a cicada, how would I want to be treated?"

With the school year ending soon, this is a wonderful activity to wrap up the term and send students into the summer with a sense of empathy. We have arranged for copies of these resources to be delivered to you tomorrow and would be happy to send additional materials.

As [former classroom teachers](#), we know the power of building on students' natural interest in animals to cultivate qualities like responsibility and respect for other sentient beings while helping them develop critical academic skills. We're here to help make it a breeze to inspire a lifelong practice of compassion while meeting curricular goals simultaneously with our popular [animal rescue stories](#), [animal-free dissection tools](#), and [more](#).

If you're interested in learning how TeachKind can further support the Little Rock School District community, we'd love to discuss it with you.

Thank you for your consideration and for *all* you do!

Sincerely,

Julie Everett (she/her)  
Correspondence and Project Administrator  
[TeachKind](#) | PETA's Humane Education Division

cc: Dr. Karen Bradshaw, Assistant Superintendent Network II ([REDACTED])  
Amy Cooper, Assistant Superintendent Network III ([REDACTED])

