



OHS HUMANE EDUCATION NEWSLETTER



Promoting Education in Animal Welfare

APRIL 2024

NATIONAL HELP A HORSE DAY APRIL 26 WILD HORSES AND BURROS IN CALIFORNIA

The government's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is responsible to oversee the wild range lands left in America. On some of those 26.9 million acres of public lands across 10 Western states live wild horses and burros. As great as this sounds for the horses and burros to run free and graze to assist in shrub control, the government has to oversee the health and population of these native animals. Problems are similar to cities with overpopulation of community cats. To manage the lands and herds, the government started the Wild Horse and Burro program that not only cares for the animals but tries to match animals to appropriate individuals, sanctuaries and rescues to purchase or adopt them. In 2023, the BLM program placed over 8,000 horses and burros into new living quarters, homes or businesses. The BLM has an educational program with an activity book for children. One of the activities is pictured below with the answers that may be a fun activity for your class.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN WHEN YOU SAY...?

Match the metaphor to its meaning!

Do not look a gift horse in the mouth	You cannot make someone do something
Straight from the horse's mouth	Not showing appreciation when given a gift
Get off your high horse	Automobile's engine measurement
Closing the stable door after the horse has bolted	Thinking you are better than others
Do not put the cart before the horse	Wait and be patient
Horsepower	Getting advice
You can lead a horse to water, but you cannot make it drink	Doing things in the wrong order
Hold your horses	Finding a solution after the damage has been done

EYORE'S BIRTHDAY APRIL 27 & HUMANE EDUCATION IN DISNEY MOVIES

Cartoon shows, animated and voiceover movies often feature animals as heroes or villains because they are appealing to children and adults. Those cartoon animals can be useful to compare humane education with real life situations. To honor Eeyore's birthday, here are some examples of humane education concepts that can be associated with Disney movies.

- A pampered dog's family has a baby and causes the dog to feel ignored (**Lady and the Tramp**) could compare to the feelings and behavioral reactions of a student with a new sibling in the house.
- A mermaid (although fictional) is not allowed to interact with humans could lead to a discussion about diversity and inclusion (**Little Mermaid**)
- Protected zoo animals who were suddenly released to fend for themselves in the wild, perhaps could open sharing of similar feelings some students may have when they transition from elementary to middle or high school or have to respond to peers on the playground! (**Madagascar**)
- Basic bullying and disrespect (**Dumbo and 101 Dalmations**) that later results in animals facing their fears and triumph as the animals rise up to preserve their lives and habitats could relate to students' feelings of self-worth and confidence.
- Protection of animal neighbors, how to show others how to respect animals' feelings and save animals from harm relates to compassion for all living beings. (**Mulan, Moana, Pocohantas**).



April Animal Holidays

- ASPCA Day (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) - April 10
- National Farm Animals Day - April 10
- National Pet Day - April 11
- National Help a Horse Day - April 26
- Eeyore's Birthday Day - April 27
- Marine Mammal Rescue Day - April 27
- National Animal Advocacy Day - April 30
- National Therapy Animal Day - April 30

AWARENESS FUN FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS GREAT SCHOOLYARD CLEAN UP for EARTH DAY! APRIL 22

ACTIVITY: Similar to our bird counting event and inspired by a teacher at Gomes School, join OHS to celebrate EARTH DAY on **MONDAY, APRIL 22** when the world comes together for the love of the planet. Teachers ask their students to either pick up or identify objects of trash around the schoolyard or school grounds for 5-15 minutes, count the items and report numbers, and then draw a picture of them cleaning up and putting trash into a bin.

Send your count and drawings to humane_education@ohlonehumanesociety.org and we will post the photos on our website. Happy Earth Day!

