



OHS HUMANE EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

Promoting Education in Animal Welfare

NOVEMBER 2024

NOVEMBER
Animal Holidays

Adopt a Turkey Month
Pet Cancer Month
Pet Diabetes Month

Nov 3-9 National Animal Shelter and
Rescue Appreciation Week
Nov 2 National Bison Day
Nov 16 National Slobber Day

NATIONAL BISON DAY NOVEMBER 2, 2024

[LINK TO ALL ABOUT PLAINS BISON](#)

[LINK TO MEET THE AMERICAN BISON](#)



What's the heaviest land animal in North America? Yes, the American Bison, sometimes called an American Buffalo. More accurately, bison is the term used for the species of the Old West, mountains, and the plains. Buffalo is the term biologists use for water buffalo and Cape buffalo on other continents.



Although bison are often thought of as a slow, wandering animals, bison can run at a top speed of 35 miles an hour. Bison live in small herds, but may join

together in summer to make larger herds for breeding. Male bison (called bulls) weigh up to 2,000 pounds and stand 6 feet tall, while females (called cows) weigh up to 1,000 pounds and reach a height of 4-5 feet. The babies are born after gestation of about 9 months, usually born in May or June.

Newborn bison weigh 30-50 pounds and are reddish-brown or cinnamon color for the first few months of their life.

It is estimated that at one time there may have been 50-75 million bison in North America and they supplied the Native Americans with food and needed materials for survival. During the 1800s, however, an estimated 50 million bison were killed by settlers for food, sport, and to make life for the Native Americans difficult. Only a few hundred bison were left when Teddy Roosevelt campaigned to recover their population. Currently, about 500,000 prairie and wood bison live on ranches, parks, refuges, or conservancies, preserves in all 50 states, and only about 5% roaming freely to help recover lost grasslands and biodiversity.

Nearly 60 Native American Tribes participated in the InterTribal Buffalo Council, cooperating to restore bison to a million acres of Indian lands. Several tribes signed the historic Northern Tribes Buffalo Treaty, establishing intertribal alliances between U.S. tribes and Canadian First Nations to work together to reestablish bison on their lands. In May 2016, President Obama signed the National Bison Legacy Act to protect the American Bison, adopt bison as the national mammal of the United States, and declare bison a historical symbol of the country.



NATIONAL SLOBBER DAY NOVEMBER 16, 2024

Meet OHS Star Slobberer, Woobie, OHS Therapy Dog



Slobber is another word for drool. Dogs and humans drool saliva sometimes, but certain dogs are known for being pretty much nonstop drooling species, such as Newfoundlands like Woobie, Boxers, Mastiffs, Hounds, St. Bernards and Bernese Mountain Dogs among others. Slobber simply comes with these dogs, so if you fall in love with dogs of this and similar breeds, or you are thinking about adopting one, gather up your towels to have ready to wipe or catch the slobber strings. Cleaning drool is just part of caring for your pet.



Although slobber or drooling is a common event in these dogs, in Newfoundland dogs and similar breeds, the slobbering is believed to be related to their heavy jowls and saggy lips that just allow the drool to escape. Other dogs may drool occasionally for a variety of reasons such as allergies, sight of food, nausea, dental disease, swallowing a foreign object, or if they are taking certain medications. Unusual drooling may indicate a health concern in dogs, so it's good to know how much is normal for your dog. If there are no unusual concerns, your dog is slobberer by birth and yours to love and care for to keep everyone happy and dry!



Do humans slobber? Humans don't usually slobber, unless they are a baby teething or an adult injured and unable to manage their saliva production or swallow well. However, humans can drool and make plenty of saliva - the Cleveland Clinic reports that adults can make 23,000 liters of saliva in an average lifetime. Saliva helps you swallow your food, protects your throat from acidic fluids, helps digestion of certain starches, and keeps your mouth chemistry in balance. Although saliva is mostly water, scientists can use one drop to analyze DNA that comes from white blood cells and cells shed from the mouth's inner linings. Saliva is being studied as an easier way to detect certain diseases currently requiring blood tests.



How do we celebrate National Slobberer Day? Here are some ideas from others:

- Treat your slobberer to their favorite snack, smothering them in love, and watching them slobber away!
- Buy your slobberer a decorated new bib.
- Raise awareness and normalize slobber by sharing information about it.
- Host a slobber party! Invite your dog's most slobbery friends and let the juices flow.
- Adopt a slobberer.
- Make some SLIIME (see activity below) to show you appreciate your pet!

We thank Woobie & Andie, Woobie's teammate, for sending the photos for being part of the OHS Pet Therapy program.

<https://ohlonehumanesociety.org/animal-assisted-interventions/>

AWARENESS FUN FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS MAKE YOUR OWN DOG SLOBBER (SLIME)

In honor of National Slobber Day and because some people with slobbery dogs call the drippy saliva SLIME, here are a few recipes for students to make their own slobber as a science observation to watch liquid change form. Fortunately, dog slobber does not get as thick as slime can. One Newfie family asked others for additional funny names they call the drool: here are some of their answers, but perhaps the students can think of some names on their own: goober, hangy things, hangers, shoelaces, shoestrings, spittle, waterfall, gops, love strings, slop, thlobber, spitooli, Newf lube, Newfie slime, Newfie glue, double shoestring, necklace, and the wrap around. Happy sliming!



3 Kid-Safe Slime Recipes

<https://www.snapology.com/blog/3-safe-slime-recipes-to-try-with-your-child/>

How to Make Enough Slime for a Classroom

<https://www.thenopressurelife.com/big-batch-slime-recipe/>

