KRILL IS A WHALE OF A GAME

Science games can provide an effective means for stimulating student interest and encouraging classroom participation. Krill is one of a number of science card games offered by Amperpress. Designed to build appreciation of the problems encountered by whales and other animals of the Antarctic Ocean, Krill is appropriate for all students in middle school and above. It is available for $8.50 plus $1.50 postage. Amperpress also offers additional games designed to help younger learners understand the problems encountered by predators, food chains, and pollination. For a free catalog, write to Amperpress, P.O. Box 9876, Oakland, CA 94611.

CRITICAL ANNUAL FLOAT BOOSTS MORAL

Each year, the education department of the Jefferson County Humane Society, Jefferson, Wisconsin, designs and creates a float to be exhibited in the two regional parades. The purpose? To express a humane education theme to the general public, no less importantly, to provide a morale booster and enjoyable, challenging project for the humane society’s volunteers, including the elderly and youth groups members. Executed under the supervision of Education Director Vickie Burt, the annual float won first place in both parades in which it was exhibited this past fall. The paper maché Noah’s Ark bore the theme The First Under the guide’s humane education program. As Debbie points out, “a gift of Kind News can 1) increase the number of students involved in symposium attendees, as pictured here. The Humane Education Committee, composed primarily of teachers from the New York City school system, serves as a resource and support network. Its members present animal-related issues and materials to students, parents, PTA’s, the media and political representatives in an effort to develop responsible action by all concerned toward animals, the environment, and people. The committee is currently offering audio-cassettes of Roger Caras’s Last Chance on Earth to benefit humane education activities in New York. The cost is $6 per cassette. To order, or to obtain more information about humane education in New York City, contact the Humane Education Committee, P.O. Box 445, New York, NY 10028.

NEW DIARY HELPS STUDENTS IMPROVE THEIR ANIMAL AWARENESS

The Amateur Naturalist’s Diary by Von Brown will be helpful to students who want to record their observations of animals. The diary provides plenty of blank, lined pages for individual recordings and includes appealing black-and-white drawings plus month-by-month suggestions on what to look for in the outdoors. Teachers may want to help students fill out the pages of the diary as a group project—older students may be interested in keeping their own nature journals as an alternative to the Diary project. The Amateur Naturalist’s Diary is available for $9.95 from your local bookseller or write to Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632.

A GIANT STEP MAKES A COMEBACK

At the 1984 conference of the Central California chapter of NAHE, Bobbi Brown of the St. Charles Humane Society in St. Charles, Illinois, presented the committee’s on-going program. As Debbie points out, “a gift of Kind News can 1) increase the number of students involved in symposium attendees, as pictured here. The Humane Education Committee, composed primarily of teachers from the New York City school system, serves as a resource and support network. Its members present animal-related issues and materials to students, parents, PTA’s, the media and political representatives in an effort to develop responsible action by all concerned toward animals, the environment, and people. The committee is currently offering audio-cassettes of Roger Caras’s Last Chance on Earth to benefit humane education activities in New York. The cost is $6 per cassette. To order, or to obtain more information about humane education in New York City, contact the Humane Education Committee, P.O. Box 445, New York, NY 10028.

NEW BOOKLET HELPS STUDENTS BECOME ACHIEVERS

Are you interested in improving your humane society’s ability to set and attain goals? Are you having difficulty organizing your department, maintaining a "team spirit"? The American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) publishes three booklets that provides guidelines for helping you analyze your administrative needs and improve on-the-job effectiveness. Titles are Getting In­ volved, Achieving Goals, and Moving For­ ward. The price per booklet is $1.50 (includes postage). To order, write to ASAE, 1575 Eye Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005.

WILDLIFE RUBBER STAMPS MAKE GOOD IMPRESSION

Current in vogues among students, rubber stamps also hold an appeal for many teachers who use them to make handouts, display charts, or make charts and charts. NAHE educators who are on the lookout for rubber stamps of wild animals—as well as a few domestic ones—will enjoy the Na­ ture Impressions catalog of rubber stamp designs. The catalog costs $1.40 and fea­ tures hundreds of images of realistic animals designed to celebrate the earth and its non­ human inhabitants. Write to Nature Impressions, 1007 Lotus Lane, El Centro, CA 94530.

A HUMANE APPROACH TO THE STUDY OF ANIMALS

As populations expand and people become more detached from the natural world, the role of biology studies in the classroom becomes increasingly important. With this in mind, NAHE has prepared two new biology brochures—one for teach­ ers and one for students. The teacher’s biology brochure, titled The Living Science: A Humane Approach to the Study of Animal, outlines the humane study of animals, discusses the objectives used in minimizing effects upon students of animal experimentation and dissection, and suggests for alternative methods and possible sources for rubber stamps also hold an appeal for many teachers who use them to make handouts, display charts, or make charts and charts. NAHE educators who are on the lookout for rubber stamps of wild animals—as well as a few domestic ones—will enjoy the Na­ ture Impressions catalog of rubber stamp designs. The catalog costs $1.40 and fea­ tures hundreds of images of realistic animals designed to celebrate the earth and its non­ human inhabitants. Write to Nature Impressions, 1007 Lotus Lane, El Centro, CA 94530.

NEW BIOLOGY BROCHURES PRESENT HUMANE APPROACH

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HAPPENINGS

Looking for a way to help students learn about animal-related jobs? Take a look at Careers Working With Animals.

Written by Guy Hodge of The Humane Society of the United States, this helpful resource contains detailed information on more than fifteen different careers. It also includes a profile of the animal welfare field and conservation movements, a review of the job market, advice for career planning, a matching activity, self-assessment and a personal needs examination. This helpful resource for teachers, guidance counselors, and individual students interested in a career in animal welfare is available for $6.95 ($5.95 for NAAHE members) from NAAHE, Box 362, MD 20740. 

Do you have ideas and materials belonging in Happenings? If they do, send them to us. Send sample materials, information, and, when available, black-and-white photographs to Happenings, HUMANE EDUCATION, Box 362, East Haddon, CA 06423.

Bat Slide Show Available

Bats are among the most maligned animals—and yet are also among the most beneficial to humans and to the environment. Many species of bats are endangered—largely as a result of human interference and ignorance. To address this problem, Bat Conservation International (BCI) is offering a sound-slide program titled Saving America's Bats. The program includes forty-nine slides by Dr. Merlin Tuttle, bat expert, and a nineteen-minute cassette tape. All proceeds from the sale of the slide show support bat conservation. The program may be ordered for $55 for nonmembers of BCI (or $52 for members) from Bat Conservation International, c/o Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, WI 53233.

SCIENCE KITS FOCUS ON ANIMALS

Educators of primary students who want to blend humane education with scientific animal facts will want to know more about the Come With Me Science Series. Each set in the series integrates science into other curriculum areas like reading, math, spelling, art, and language arts for very young students. The sets cover such topics as insects, Sea Animals, Birds, Mammals of the Woods, Spiders, etc. Each set includes a collection of childlike, hand-drawn animal story pictures plus stories, songs, a matching picture game, and teacher’s guide. Many of the sets also include an audiotape cassette that uses music as a reinforcement for learning and remembering science facts. The cost of a complete set is $13.50, but individual parts of the sets are sold separately. The Come With Me Science Series catalog includes many other educational science materials for kindergarten through sixth grade. For a catalog, write to Come With Me Science Series, S&S Publishing Company, 4021 Holiday Hill Court, Shingle Springs, CA 95682.

DOG FUNDRAISER OFFERED

The Gaines Guide to America’s Dogs wall chart has been revised and is now available, announces the Gaines Dog Care Center. Full-color illustrations of 133 breeds are shown on the new 25 x 38 inch chart. The chart also contains breed data such as average height and weight, color, and origin under each illustration. Folded copies can be obtained for $1.50 each, and rolled copies suitable for framing are available for $2.50 each. Humane societies and animal welfare organizations interested in obtaining the charts in quantity for resale at fund-raising events should write for special bulk rates to the Gaines Dog Care Center, 250 North Street, White Plains, NY 10625.

COLORING BOOKS PROMOTE INSECT AWARENESS

Readily accessible, insects can provide youngsters with valuable subjects for observation. What’s more, insects are fascinating animals—as children will soon learn when they tackle the pages of Coloring Fun With Insects. From the cicada to the walkingstick to the dragonfly, the forty-eight-page coloring book illustrates forty-eight insects with one or two lines of text describing each. A coloring key is included so students can color their insects as they appear in nature. With proper guidance, Coloring Fun With Insects can help youngsters overcome fears by improving awareness of the insects all around them. Order for $3 per book from the Entomological Society of America, 4653 Calvert Road, College Park, MD 20740. 

These are special children. They’ve been made fun of by the neighborhood kids. They’ve failed repeatedly in school. Sometimes they’d rather be thought of as “bad” than “dumb,” so they act accordingly. These are special education students. Luckily, they have very special teachers—teachers who have made humane education an integral part of their curriculum.

An Agent for Change

Kathie Pontikes, a doctoral candidate, is in her sixth year of teaching learning-disabled/behavior-disordered children. Her students range in age from seven to ten years. Kathie team teaches with Ken Solomon so that students may experience a more normal class size while benefiting from lots of teacher-student interaction. Kathie sees humane education as a natural for all children but especially appealing to her students at the Miriam School in Webster Groves, Missouri. “These kids have been the underdogs all their lives. They can relate to animals who are threatened with extinction,” observes Kathie. “They know what it’s like to be misunderstood and devalued. The suffering of animals gives these kids a cause. For once, the children can be giving help instead of receiving it. That boosts their self-confidence and helps animals.”

Humane education is a natural not only for the children but for Kathie as well. A member of numerous local and national animal welfare groups, she is a presenter for a local speaker’s bureau concerned with treatment of animals. Kathie explains, “At first, when I began teaching a humane lesson in my classroom every week, people thought, ‘Oh, that’s just her. That’s her personal crusade.’ The other teachers didn’t see themselves getting involved at all. Kathie, however, always invited other classes to join hers for special events. When personnel from a local raptor sanctuary brought a golden eagle and barn owl to her class, all the other classes were there as well. Now, out of all the other teachers at the school, four have followed Kathie’s example of adding a classroom pet, and all use some portion of the humane education materials. “The teachers saw it was not just my crusade, but a neat way to teach respect for all life,” Kathie explains. “I don’t just teach about animals but about what’s happening to animals. For example, I bring in a steel-jaw leghold trap for the kids to examine. They become very vocal about protecting animals’ rights, even if it’s a small beetle or worm. Two of my students even wrote articles for a humane society newsletter in Finland. I really feel that these children will have an impact upon our world as they come into adulthood. They are future crusaders in an important cause.”

Opening New Worlds

Mary Thomas is a teacher of educable mentally retarded children at the Skills Center in North Little Rock, Arkansas.

Special Children, Special Teachers: Blending Humane Education with Special Education

by Patty Finch

- Proudly, the class stands at the Town Hall ceremony. The students are presenting a copy of the four-page flyer they developed on how to find a missing pet.
- Two children sit huddled over their papers busily writing. They are developing articles to send to the Finnish Humane Society children’s newsletter in Helsinki, Finland.
- Last year, a boy’s sole interest in recess, he was overheard explaining to all the other classes to join hers for special events. With personnel from a local raptor sanctuary brought a golden eagle and barn owl to her class, all the other classes were there as well. Now, out of all the other teachers at the school, four have followed Kathie’s example of adding a classroom pet, and all use some portion of the humane education materials.
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