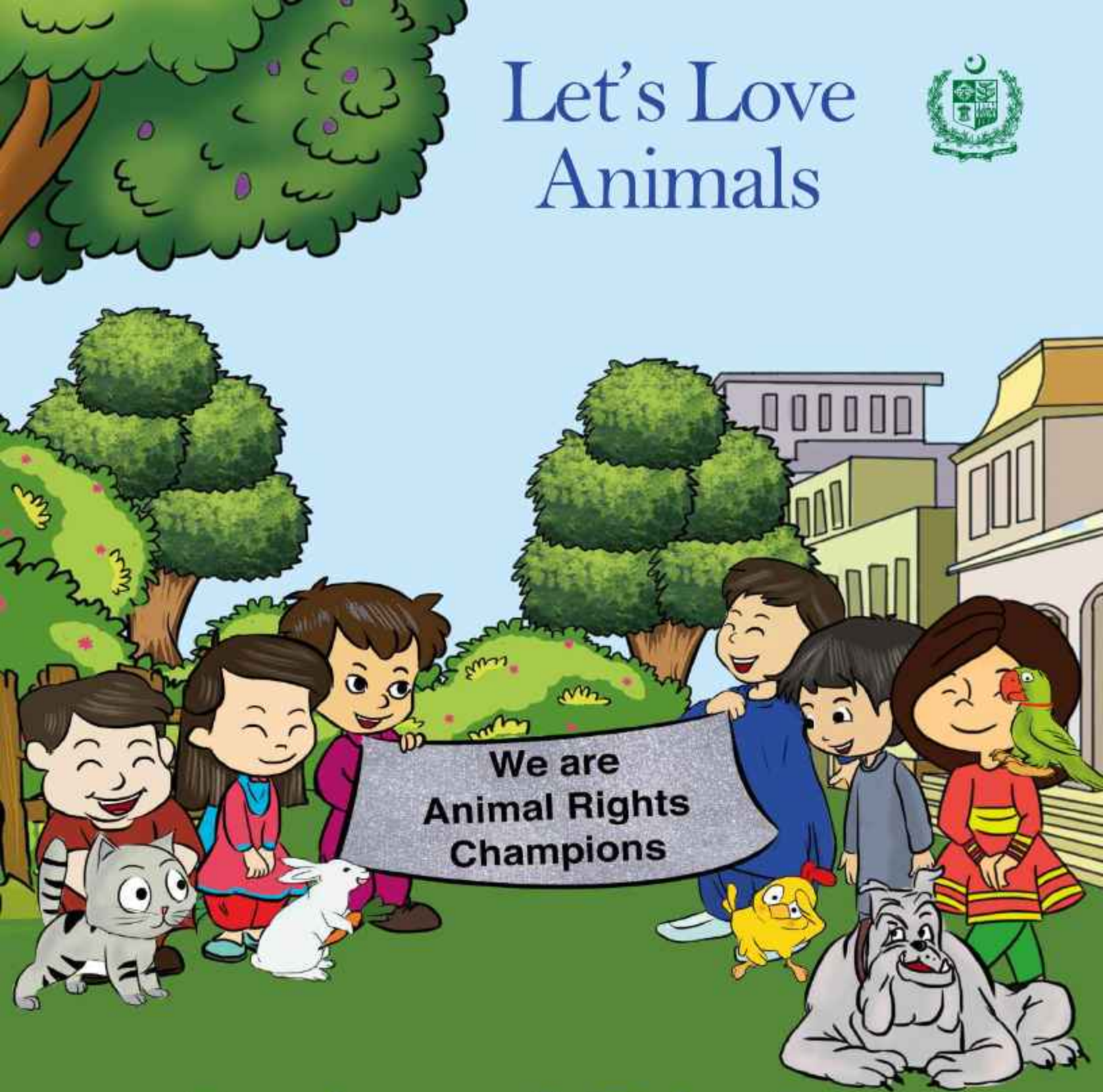


Let's Love Animals



Animal Rights

For Children

National Curriculum Council
Ministry of Federal Education and
Professional Training



ANRICHAMPS
Animal Rights Champions



Let's Love Animals

ANIMAL RIGHTS

For Children



National Curriculum Council
Ministry of Federal Education and
Professional Training

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Let's Love Animals

For Children

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P R E F A C E

Education plays an instrumental role in a person's individual development, which in turn has an impact on the collective development of society. As such, education is an effective medium in fostering a peaceful, just and empathetic society.

The eight billion humans that inhabit this world are negligible compared to the billions more animals and plants that coexist in a balanced ecosystem alongside us. As the intellectually superior species, human beings have the responsibility to ensure that external threats and risk factors do not adversely affect the integrity of this ecosystem.

The Prime Minister of Islamic Republic of Pakistan took notice of how the lack of awareness about animal rights was adversely affecting the country's many and varied ecosystems—from the Indus Valley to the glaciers of Gilgit-Baltistan. At the Prime Minister's directive, the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training took necessary steps to inculcate values related to respecting animal rights in school education. This workbook was developed as a supplementary reading material to enable young learners to not only learn about animal rights but also embody them in their everyday life, e.g., learning about proper animal care and protecting against animal abuse.

The workbook covers basic concepts of animal rights, types of animals, different forms of abuse and neglect, Islamic principles of animal care and legal aspects of animal rights. It also includes strategies to ensure the protection of animals.

We hope that this workbook will become a source of positive change in our society by raising awareness and providing a safer place for all living beings in the world.

Dr. Mariam Chughtai

Director

National Curriculum Council

Islamabad



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Our World, Our Home

What is a Home?

A home is a place where someone lives with their loved ones. It is a place where one may feel happy and safe. While living together, we love one another and take care of one another's feelings and emotions.



Who lives with you at your home?

.....

.....

.....





Our Bigger Home

The world we live in is our bigger home. Just as we live with our families at our home, we have a larger family that lives with us in the world.



Do you know how many countries are there in the world? Name some of them.

Four sets of horizontal dashed lines for writing answers.





Who lives with us in this world, our bigger home?

- There are more than eight billion people who live with us in this large home.
- There are billions of plants and trees that add beauty to this world.
- Billions of animals and birds also live on this planet.





Human Rights

Human rights can be defined as the freedoms, choices, and privileges that people have been granted by the laws of a country. These may include the right to life, right to education, right to work, right to food, right to shelter, and freedom from discrimination.



Responsibilities

With rights come responsibilities. Every person has a duty to exercise her rights responsibly. These responsibilities may be given to a person by the laws of their country, by elders of the family, seniors in an office or a society. These may include paying taxes, remaining honest in all circumstances, keeping the environment clean and respecting the rights of others.

Do only humans have rights? What about the rights of other creatures?

- Only human beings have rights
- Animals and plants also have rights

Yes

No

Yes

No





All Creatures Have Rights

Just like humans, other creatures in this world have rights too.



Plants have a right to be taken care of. We should not cut trees and plants intensively. Plants also have the right to receive proper and adequate sunlight and air. If we keep plants at home, we should take care of them as best as we can.

Before we learn about animal rights, let us first categorize the many types of animals.

Types of Animals

Animals are beautiful. They are also useful in many ways.

Animals may be divided into three main categories:

i) Wild Animals

ii) Domesticated Animals

iii) Pets

Wild Animals

Wild animals are mostly found in jungles and deserted areas. Sometimes you may also find them on city streets. They can be dangerous. Lions, tigers, wolves, cheetahs, zebras, bears, crocodiles, and elephants are some examples of wild animals.





Wild animals increase the beauty of our world. They are also very useful for humans. The venom of many snakes is used as medicine against snakebites and other diseases. Humans benefit from wild animals in many ways.



Can you name some wild animals found in your environment?

List some of the benefits wild animals offer humans.

Domesticated Animals

Domesticated animals are usually kept to help humans in their everyday tasks. Dogs, horses, hens, donkeys, goats, cows, ducks, and camels are examples of domesticated animals.



What kind of help do these animals provide to humans?





Pets

People keep pets in their homes for pleasure and joy. Pets live with people as members of their family. People generally keep cats, dogs, fish, and birds as pets. Some people also keep turtles, snakes and other wild animals as pets.



Do you or someone you know have a pet?

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What pet animal is that?

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What is the name of that pet?

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How do you or the owners of that pet take care of it?

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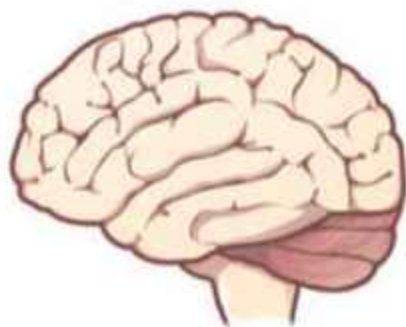




Similarities between Humans and Animals

Though in some ways humans and animals are different, they have many similarities too. For example, most animals can see, hear, touch, and feel like humans by using their hands, eyes, tongues, and ears.

Just like the outer organs of an animal's body, its internal organs are also like those of humans. Look at the picture below. You will notice the similarities between a human brain and a dolphin brain. This partly explains why dolphins are very intelligent animals.



Human brain



Dolphin brain

Like humans, animals too have emotions. Many animals are highly intelligent. They feel happy when treated well. Similarly, they feel pain when tortured or feel frustrated when behaved badly. They make homes, have babies, and eat food. They protect their children and feel fear. They also play with one another as humans do.





Animal Rights

When we have so many similarities with animals, we should also think about **animal rights** the way we think about human rights. In fact, animals deserve to have their rights protected even more because they cannot even speak up and ask for their rights the way humans can.

Let's learn about animal rights:

**Animal rights mean treating animals in a way that is best for them.
It is about letting animals live on their own terms.**

These rights may be ensured with our commitment not to be cruel towards animals.

Do you remember any incident where you felt so happy or unhappy for an animal?

What made you happy or unhappy for that animal?

What did you do in that situation?





Four sets of horizontal dashed lines for writing practice.

Mistreatment of Animals

Cruelty towards animals must not be tolerated. Every now and then, we witness different animals facing cruelty at the hands of humans.

Pets kept at home are most vulnerable to human cruelty.

Sometimes we see a child teasing a kitten by holding its tail and swinging it around.





At times we see a child blowing a horn in a puppy's ear.



Sometimes we see a child poking a bird in a cage with a stick or other pointed object.



It is danegerous when children tease and harm animals by fire.



Some people also treat domesticated animals like donkeys, horses and camels cruelly. These animals help humans in carrying things.

Donkeys are often overloaded with cargo and forced to pull heavy carts.





Animals are beaten with sticks or whips.



Sometimes, animals are kept hungry and thirsty for a long time.





Some people use dogs, wolves, roosters and other animals for fighting. During such fights, animals are maimed or killed.



Millions of seabirds and sea animals die due to water pollution.





It is a heartbreaking sight to see children throwing stones at animals and birds.



Animal abuse does not have to be intentional. It is generally a result of neglect. Not providing water or shelter to dogs kept outside is a type of abuse.





A Market - A Zoo

“There are kids in cages everywhere!” Rahim gasped. “What is happening?”

Rahim was in the middle of a heavily crowded market - and not just an ordinary market, but a market full of animals roaming freely with children locked in cages. Rahim wondered whether he was back at the zoo he visited on a school trip with his friends earlier that day. As Rahim stood there in great shock and deep confusion, a monkey jumped in front of him. It quickly extended its arm to catch him.

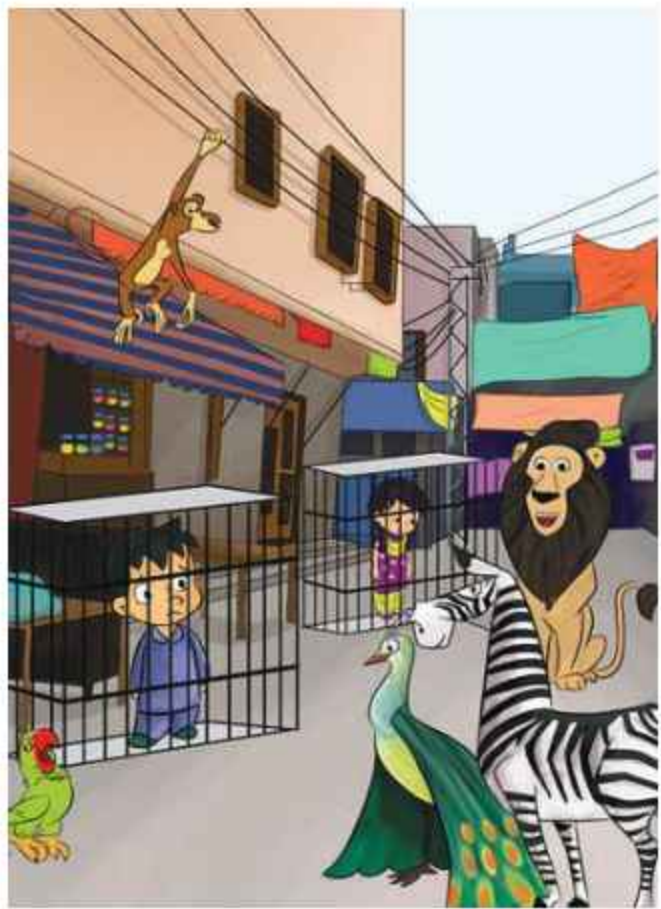
"Please don't hurt me!", Rahim begged.

"Ha, ha! Too late!" laughed the monkey sinisterly. "You don't belong here! You belong in a cage!"

The monkey grabbed Rahim by the collar and lifted him up. Stomping heavily on the ground as all other animals watched Rahim and mocked him, the monkey reached for an empty cage and threw Rahim in. It locked the cage and swallowed the key in front of Rahim's eyes.

"Help! Get me out of here!" wailed Rahim.

The more Rahim screamed and cried for help, the louder the animals laughed at him. Soon, they circled around his cage. Rahim's lips trembled with fear. A lion roared in his face and made fun of Rahim as he jumped backed into the cage. Birds attacked him with small balls of paper. Monkeys nudged him with their fingers and crackled wildly as they saw him in pain. A zebra threw cold water on Rahim's face to see his reaction and made fun of him with other animals.



Worried for his life and panting with fright, Rahim suddenly woke up.

"Phew! It was just a dream!" Rahim said under his breath with relief. "Or was it?"

he began to wonder. He instantly remembered his day at the zoo with his friends.

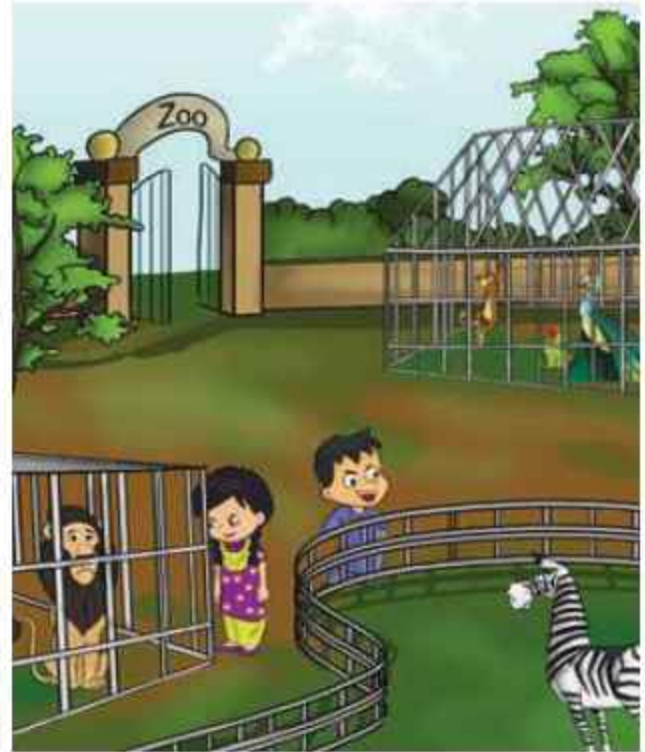




While the teachers were busy with other tasks, he and his friends decided to disturb the animals the same way they did to him in his dream. To Rahim, it was just him and his friends harmlessly enjoying their day out. He now realized what it was like for the animals. He cupped his face in his hands and regretted how he had treated the zoo animals on that day.

"They are already so miserable while stuck in those cages. How could I do this to them? I should have cared for them and looked after them because of their already sorry state. Instead, I tortured and disturbed them...", Rahim sighed.

It was at that moment that Rahim made a promise to himself to never disturb or upset an animal. He realized animals too were living beings and needed care and protection. They got frightened too, just like humans, and it was his job to make sure no animal felt frightened by him. The next day, Rahim narrated his dream to his friends. He told them how animals have their rights and how they must be protected at all costs. His friends quickly realized their mistake and agreed to always care for the animals both in the zoo and on the streets from then on.



What have you learnt from this story?

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Anaya and Cookie

Anaya was an outstanding student. She spent most of her time studying new mathematic and scientific facts about mathematics and science. She had a dog named Cookie, and she loved it like a close friend. Unfortunately, Cookie was deaf. This did not matter to Anaya and her family, because they loved and cared for Cookie no less than a member of the family.



She had worked hard all evening. As soon as she completed her work, she decided to go for a walk outside and get some fresh air. Anaya left her project on the table for everyone in the family to see. She was very proud of her work. What she forgot, however, was that Cookie had been sleeping under the study table. When it saw Anaya leaving the room, Cookie rushed out to follow her. As it leaped for the door, Cookie accidentally jerked the table. Anaya's science project model fell on the floor and was smashed to pieces. Cookie sniffed and wagged its tail at the broken pieces everywhere. Meanwhile, it took a minute for Anaya to realize what had just happened.

"You fool! What have you done?" she shouted at Cookie and grabbed it by the tail. Having heard her loud scream, her mother quickly walked into Anaya's room and witnessed the horrifying sight of Anaya stepping on Cookie's tail and grabbing its face painfully hard. Anaya kept on shouting at Cookie.





"Anaya! Stop it! What are you doing?", Anaya's mother shouted.

Anaya quickly came to her senses.

"Oh my God! What am I doing?", she thought to herself and released Cookie. With tears in its eyes, Cookie immediately ran off to Anaya's mother and lay at her feet. Anaya's mother hugged Cookie and patted its head.

"Mom, I -", Anaya began to explain herself.

"No need to explain anything, Anaya," her mother interrupted, "I see that your science model is broken. I know exactly what happened here. You know, this is no way to treat a dog we care in our home. Cookie has been with us for many years. It is our responsibility, and it deserves to be protected just like any other animal. We need to look after its diet and health, and treat it with kindness and affection, not harm and torture it just because it accidentally did something in your room. What sense can a dog have of a school project? Cookie was probably just following you out of the room because it feels safe only when you are around."

Anaya began to tear up.

"I'm so sorry, Mom. I don't know what took over me. I always want Cookie to feel safe around me," she said while sobbing.

"It will only feel safe with you when you make Cookie feel safe and protected. And in turn, it will protect you and love you just as much. Don't apologize to me. Apologize to the Almighty and Cookie itself. Promise never to act cruelly towards it or any animal from now on. They are living beings too, my child. They have emotions too."

"You're right, Mom," said Anaya. "I promise to never act this way ever again."

She reached for Cookie and held it. Cookie was hesitant at first, but Anaya patted it and hugged it warmly. "I'm so sorry, Cookie. I will do better and never act cruelly with you ever. That's a promise." Cookie nudged her with its nose.

What did you learn from this story?

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Cruelty Towards Animals – Why?

There may be many reasons behind unjust behaviour toward animals:

- One of the reasons may be that some humans think that they are superior to every other being on the earth. This thinking leads people to show cruelty towards animals. They do not understand a simple fact: the survival of the humans also depends on animals.
- Another major cause of cruelty towards animals is that people think they own animals and can do whatever they want with them. They do not understand that just like humans, animals too have certain rights.





- Sometimes people are led to show cruelty towards animals because of their friends, colleagues, or class fellows. It happens when they are dared to tease animals and prove their so-called bravery.
- Some animals are neglected by people who lack awareness of animal care or resources.
- Some people treat animals harshly in the name of entertainment.

Can you think of any other causes behind animal abuse?

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DO YOU KNOW?

Some people who abuse animals have also experienced abuse in their own lives.



Animal Rights in Islam

Islam is a religion of peace. It defined animal rights almost 1500 years ago.

Before Islam, Arabs would show cruelty towards animals in different ways.

- They used to tie animals and kill them one after another.
- Sometimes, they would cut animals' body parts while they were still alive.
- People would also tie a dead person's riding animal to his grave and not give the animal anything to eat or drink. The poor animal would die of thirst and hunger as a result.

Islam outlined certain rights of animals. Here are only a few:

- Allah (SWT) declares animals as divine signs:
"There are [manifest] signs [of truth] in the creation of [humanity and numerous types of] animals scattered [on the earth] for those who believe [in Allah]" (45:4).
- Many verses of the Holy Quran invite us to learn from animals such as birds, ants, and honeybees.



- Islam prohibits overloading animals. Rasulullah ﷺ said: "There is no beast of burden that does not pray to God every morning so that Lord may bestow it an owner who would give it enough forage and water and would not overload it."
- Rasulullah ﷺ said, "A woman was tortured and was put in Hell because of a cat which she had kept locked till it died of hunger. Allah said (to the woman), 'You neither fed it nor watered when you locked it up, nor did you set it free to eat the insects of the earth.'
- Rasulullah ﷺ said, "Whoever kills a small bird for no reason, it will beseech Allah on the Day of Resurrection saying: O Lord, so and so killed me for no reason, and he did not kill me for any beneficial purpose."

These verses of the Holy Qur'an and the statements of Rasulullah ﷺ explain clearly that Islam takes animal rights seriously. It prohibits abusing them in any way. It also prohibits teasing or killing the animals without any reason. Furthermore, Islam prohibits separating baby birds or animals from their mothers. Hunting baby birds is not allowed in Islam.

Rasulullah ﷺ also narrated the story of a sinful woman who helped quench the thirst of a dog. Because of this act of kindness, Allah pardoned the woman.

On another occasion when he was asked if there was a reward for serving animals, Rasulullah ﷺ said: "(Yes) There is a reward for serving any living being".

Rasulullah ﷺ said:

“A good deed done to an animal is as meritorious as a good deed done to a human being, while an act of cruelty to an animal is as bad as an act of cruelty to a human being.”

These Ahadith clearly explain that Allah (SWT) handsomely rewards those who show kindness to animals.

1. What lesson have you learned from these Islamic teachings?

2. What is the reward of dealing animals with kindness?

3. What could be the consequences of showing cruelty towards animals?





Freedom for Animals

Animals deserve freedom. What would you do to ensure the following?

1. Freedom from hunger and thirst

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2. Freedom from discomfort

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3. Freedom from pain, injury, or disease

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4. Freedom from fear and distress

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5. Freedom to express natural behaviour

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Legal Aspects of Animal Rights



Cruelty against animals is a legal offence in countries across the world, including Pakistan. Section 3 of the **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1890** makes cruelty to animals punishable by law. The offender may be imprisoned or fined.

Section 429 of the Pakistan Penal Code 1860 makes it a criminal offense to kill, maim, or render useless any animal. For this crime, the offender may be imprisoned for five years and be required to pay a fine.

In your opinion, what should be the punishment for showing neglect towards animals?





Happy and Sad Animals

Just like humans, animals have emotions. They feel happy when cared for and they may feel sad when disturbed.

There are certain ways to recognize if an animal is happy or sad. Let's look at how dogs express their feelings.

A Happy Dog

A high and waggy tail is one sign of a happy dog. If a dog seems relaxed in its posture, this is another indication that the dog is feeling good. A dog is cheery when it is playful and leaping around. You can also understand that a dog is happy when it leans into your hand when you stroke it.



An Unhappy Dog

A low or tucked tail is a sign of a stressed dog. Sometimes dogs tuck their tail in their legs to show they are sad. If the dog shrinks away, hold head low and avoids eye contact, it may mean that it is unhappy. In addition, if a dog is upset, it may try to hide behind you or another object.

When dogs feel threatened, they start barking continuously. This is common among stray dogs who bark at the people in the streets.



What can you do to make a sad animal happy?





What Should be Done to Avoid Animal Abuse

- Animals should be given due rights.
- Farm animals should be treated kindly.
- We should raise our voice against any form of cruelty against animals.

• Quite often, guardians of animals lack proper knowledge of animal care. In case we witness animal abuse, we must speak with the guardians of the animal and give them necessary information to encourage the proper and humane treatment of animals.

• During Eid al-Adha, while people buy animals for sacrifice, we must keep an eye on the careful transportation of the animals from the market to our home.

• When qurbani animals are brought home, they should be cared for with adequate food and water.



• If you notice someone talking about poisoning stray dogs, inform them about different ways of controlling the population of street dogs. Pakistan's first stray dogs collection centre has been opened in Islamabad. Instead of shooting or poisoning them, street dogs can be sent to this centre.

• Find information about the organizations working for animal rights. Learn different ways of helping such organizations.

• If you are keeping a pet at home, collect as much information as you can about caring for that animal. You should be careful about their vaccination, food, trimming their nails, fur, and bathing, etc. In case of any emergency, you must contact a veterinary doctor.

• Some people think it is exciting and attractive to keep wild animals like lions, tigers, and leopards as pets. This is not advisable at all. Avoid keeping wild animals as pets. Separating them from their original habitat is against wild animals' natural lifestyle.

• Keep an eye on the condition of animals in the zoos of your city. In case an animal is in miserable condition, inform the authorities and raise your voice through social media.





Let's Make Our Schools Animal-Friendly

We know that this world is a home large enough for humans and animals. As we work together to make this world a peaceful living place for humans, we also need to work on making the world a safer place for animals.

Let's start this by making our schools animal-friendly. To achieve this goal, we can take following steps.

- Establish an animal rights club and organize different public activities.
 - Learn more about the animals that face extinction. Organize campaigns to save these animals.
 - Get information about stray animals rescue and shelter services in your city. Inform these services in case any rescue is required.
 - Walk carefully to avoid disturbing or harming animals.
 - Keep your school and its surroundings clean. Garbage is a problem not only for humans, but also for animals, who may eat the garbage.
 - Plastic bags can suffocate wildlife, such as fish. Avoid using plastic bags. If use is necessary, dispose of them properly.
 - Broken glass can harm not only humans, but also animals. Recycle glass containers properly.
 - Animals can die if they swallow balloons. After use, cut plastic balloons into smaller pieces and throw them into the trash bin.
 - Drink cans can harm animals. After use, compress the cans and recycle them with the can lids.
- If you bring your pets to school, make sure you carry them properly in a ventilated container. Also make sure the animals are not disturbed unnecessarily.





By following these steps, we can make our schools safe and healthy places for animals. This love and respect for animals can be spread throughout our neighbourhood and cities and ultimately to the world.

It is your turn now. What will you do to make your school a safe place for animals?

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Kaavan: The World's Loneliest Elephant



Do you know who Kaavan the Elephant was? Why was he called 'The World's Loneliest Elephant'? Collect information about him and share his story with your class-fellows.





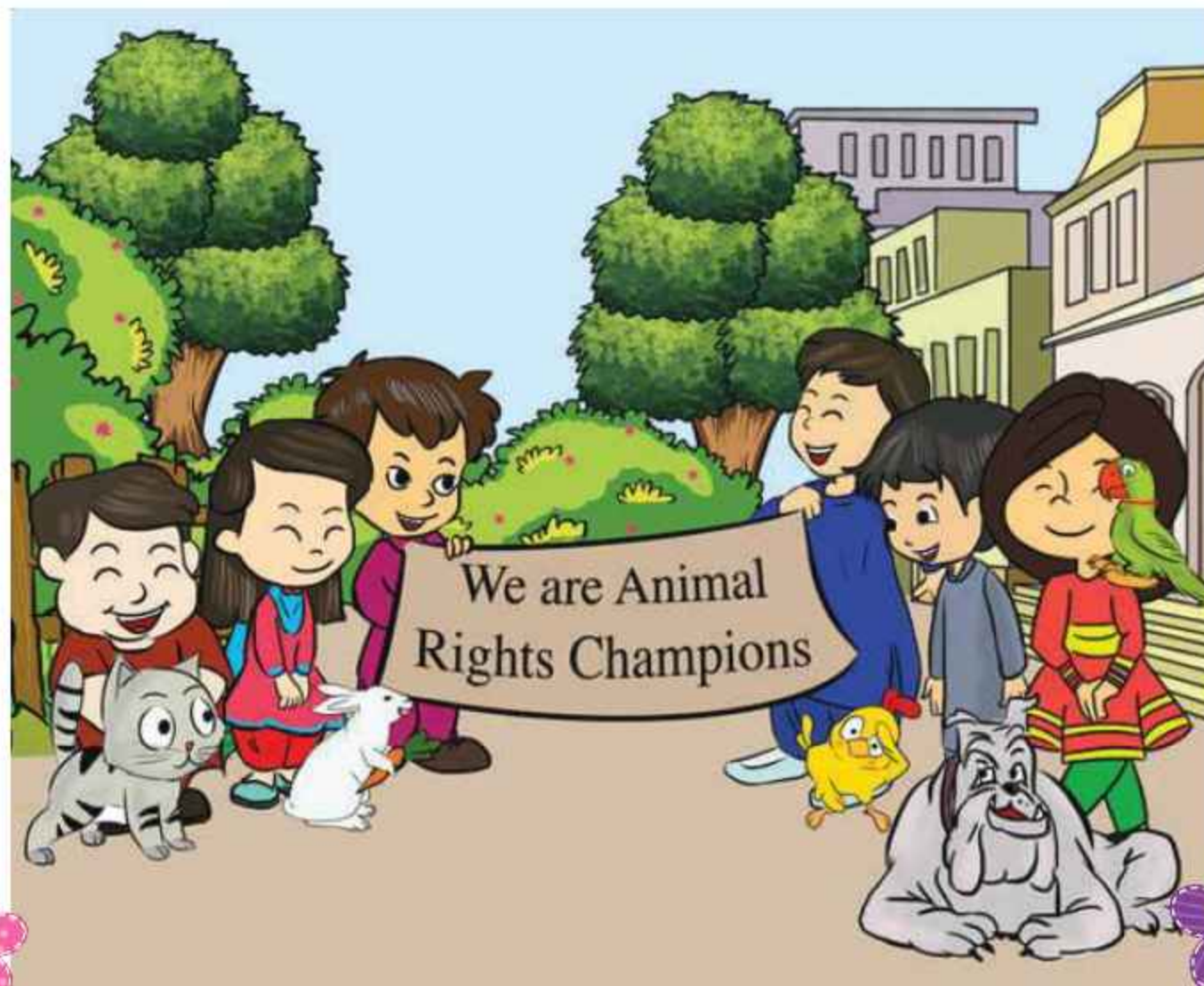
Let's Promise

We will never tease any animal as they are members of this huge family living in our big home: the Earth. We will also remind others to learn about animal rights.

In case of abuse against an animal, we will inform our parents, teachers or other grown-ups. We will take all necessary steps to stop mistreatment against the animals.

We will raise awareness about animal rights in our neighbourhood, schools and society. We can do this by writing on different forums, creating art to highlight importance of animal rights or speaking to our family members at the dinner table.

We will do all this because:





Love, Respect and Kindness Pledge



I, _____,

pledge to be kind and respectful towards all humans and animals!

- I will be kind towards animals by

_____.

- I will protect the environment by

_____.

- I will stand up against cruelty towards animals by

_____.

- I will help troubled animals by

_____.

- I will take care of pet animals by

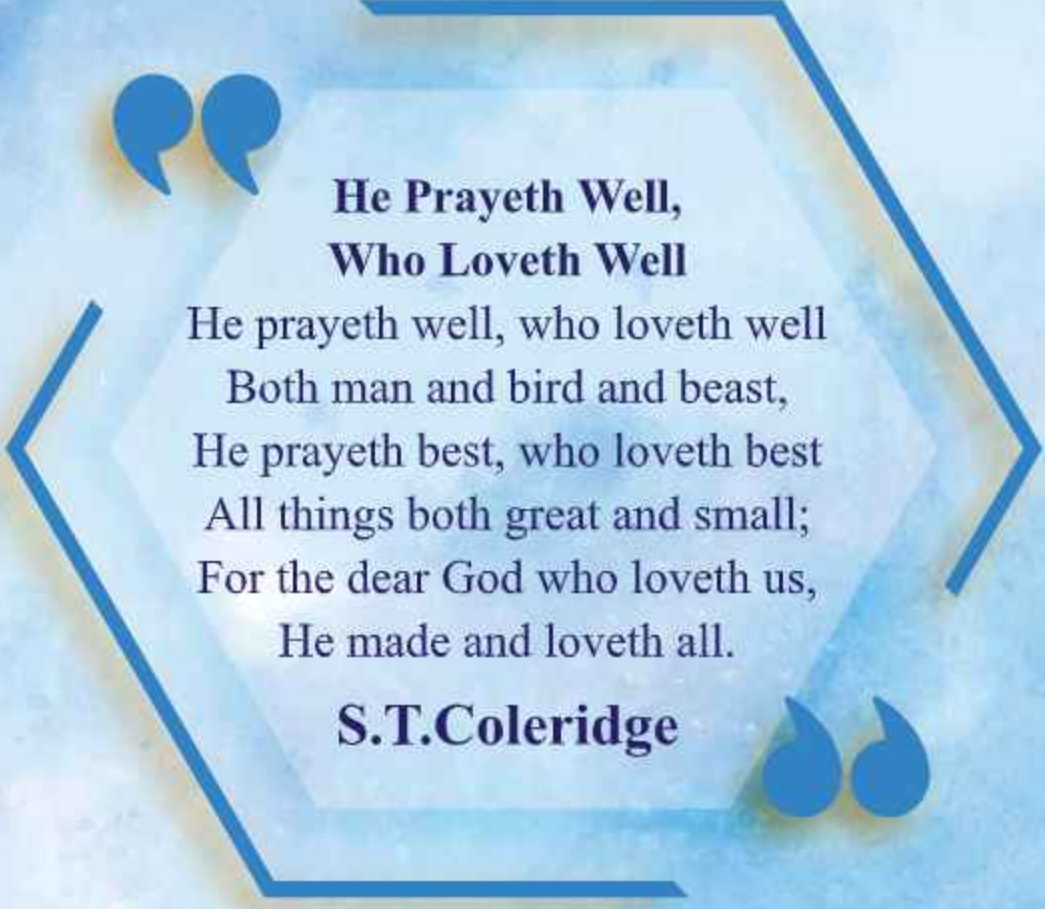
_____.

- I will raise my voice against animals abuse by

_____.

We will never tease any animal as they are the members of this huge family living in our big home, the Earth. We will also remind others to fight for and protect animal rights.






**He Prayeth Well,
Who Loveth Well**

He prayeth well, who loveth well
Both man and bird and beast,
He prayeth best, who loveth best
All things both great and small;
For the dear God who loveth us,
He made and loveth all.

S.T.Coleridge



ANIMAL RIGHTS



“The way we treat animals is a pretty good indicator of the compassion we are capable of for humankind.”



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Government of Pakistan