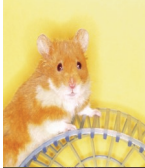




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March-April 2009



# Humane Education

**Kokomo Humane Society Mission**  
*Improving the lives of and preventing cruelty to domestic and companion animals through humane education, shelter, and uniting pets with families.*

It's time to make living ethically, sustainably, and peaceably on this planet the very purpose of education.

[www.humaneeducation.org](http://www.humaneeducation.org)

## Going to School: Humane Education



Ben in the Classroom

Recently, local schools have undertaken several AWESOME service projects for the Kokomo Humane Society, collecting donations and items from the wishlist. Ben and Emily have really enjoyed visiting these groups and look forward to the busy spring semester. We would like to extend a special thanks to Lafayette Park Schools and their students, Mrs. People's Transitions class at Maple Crest Middle School, and the Kokomo Head Start Program.

With your support and continued interest in the Kokomo Humane Society Humane Education Program, we were able to reach almost 350 kids in one month, and we can't wait to do it again in March and April.

We understand that each age level has different educational needs, so teachers and educators can choose a

program to best suit their needs. We can bring Ben, our humane education mascot, who has become quite famous with school kids and through his Twitter on the Kokomo Humane Society website. Programs can focus on bite prevention, how to properly care for your pets, being kind to animals, the importance of spaying and neutering, and being a good citizen through community service projects. These programs are tailored individually for each classroom. Its great for children with special needs as well, and Ben seems to light up the room no matter where he goes.

In addition to our regular humane education programs, this month we will be starting a poster contest with all 3rd graders at area schools. If you would like to participate in this, let us know, and stay tuned for more information.

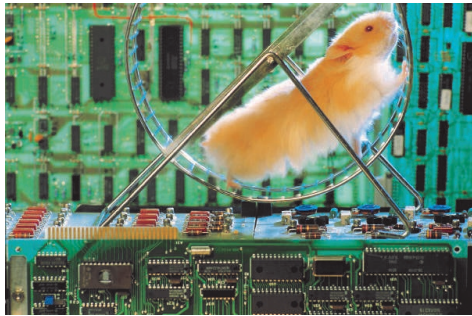


## Fast Horse Facts

- 🐾 A horse's height is measured in "hands." A "hand" equals 4 inches.
- 🐾 Horses are herd animals and feel most comfortable in groups.
- 🐾 Until it is 5 years old, a horse is called a "colt" for males and a "filly" for females.
- 🐾 The oldest horse lived to be 62 years old!
- 🐾 There are more than 350 breeds of horses and ponies.

# The Hamster

*More than just a spinning wheel*



Hamsters come from the Syrian desert, discovered by a zoologist 70 years ago. Since then, they have become a very popular small pet the world over.

This is a quick guide. Additional research should be done before bringing one of these cute little guys home.

First of all, let's discuss housing. A hamster should have a cage that is as large as possible. In addition to size, it should be comfortable and have things entertain your pet. There are a variety of habitats, so check with your local pet store for options; however, the plastic

colorful tubes do not provide adequate ventilation, can hold in odor and are difficult to keep clean for your pet.

Bedding should be made from unscented, oil-free wood or paper material. Never use pine or cedar as they are both poisonous to hamsters. Don't forget to change the bedding weekly.

As they are typically nocturnal, it is important to keep your pet in a quiet room and have plenty of hiding places within the habitat. They will chew on everything, so make sure you give them plenty of things to keep them occupied, such as wooden blocks.

Hamsters should always have a food and water supply. Keep their food and water away from the area they use as a bathroom, and give them plenty of fresh fruits and veggies in addition to their pre-packaged diets. Dwarf hamsters are actually prone to diabetes, so their fruit intake should be minimal. Exercise is a must, so provide a wheel, but an exercise ball is actually very stressful for your pet.

Give them plenty of attention during their awake hours (usually late evening), and you will have a friendly and fun pet!



**Springtime's Here**  
Unfortunately, for the Kokomo Humane Society, spring time is the worst season. We receive as many as 50 kittens and puppies PER DAY, and many pregnant females. Help us out: consider becoming a foster family for a pregnant dog or cat. Talk to people about having their pet spayed or neutered. It is healthier for their pet, and helps their community more than they can know.



**Emily J. Auth. Not the furry one in the picture.**

We hosted our first youth birthday party here at the shelter and it was a blast! In lieu of birthday

presents, 5th grader Avery decided to have her classmates donate items for the animals! It was a lot of fun for the kids, and for the animals here at the shelter who got special attention that day. We would love to do this again, so help us get the word out. If you know of a child, age 6 or up who loves animals, they can have their birthday at the Kokomo Humane Society.

At the Kokomo Humane Society we are committed to preventing pet overpopulation and animal abandonment. This takes everyone's cooperation to educate our community! Reach me at 765-452-6224 ext. 3 or [e.auth@kokomohumane.org](mailto:e.auth@kokomohumane.org)

Many Thanks, Emily J. Auth,  
Community Outreach Coordinator

*Teaching a child not to step on a caterpillar is as valuable to the child as it is to the caterpillar. ~Bradley Millar*

Check us out on  
myspace!  
[myspace.com/  
kokomohumane](http://myspace.com/kokomohumane)



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