

SPRING 2021



VIRGINIA BEACH SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

PAWSITIVE PRESS

A Newsletter For Kids



**Earth Day
Bingo**

**Poison
Prevention**

Pet Language

You Can Prevent Pet Poisoning

An important part of having a pet is making sure you keep them happy and healthy.

You probably already know that you have to put your toys away so your pet won't chew them or eat parts of them. But there are other things in your home that can be very dangerous to pets if they swallow them - that includes some of the foods you eat!

You can help prevent pet poisoning by keeping your pet away from these items:



Dangerous Foods

Some foods that you love to eat can make your pet very sick. Some of the most common foods that are poisonous to pets are **chocolate, gum, grapes, raisins, and avocado.**



Medicine

Make sure **all medicine** is kept away from your pets, whether it is for pets or people. If you drop your medicine and your pet eats it, make sure you tell an adult right away.



Other Items Around the Home

Things like **batteries, homemade play dough, detergent, and dryer sheets** are also poisonous to pets. Plants like **azalea, lilies, and yew** can also make your pet very sick.

A good rule of thumb is to tell an adult if your pet has gotten a hold of anything that is not theirs. By paying attention to what your pet is doing, you can help keep your pet safe!



Practice compassion and kindness toward the earth with Earth Day Bingo. There's even a chance to win some cool VBSPCA prizes! Visit our website to print off your very own Bingo card.

[Vbspca.com/activity-of-the-month](https://vbspca.com/activity-of-the-month)

Respect Your Pet:

What They're Trying To Tell You

Cats, dogs, and even small animals have their own language and way they communicate their emotions and needs. Pets communicate through sounds, body language, and behaviors. It is important that we learn their language so we can respect their feelings. Respect is the key to any healthy relationship, especially those with our furry friends!

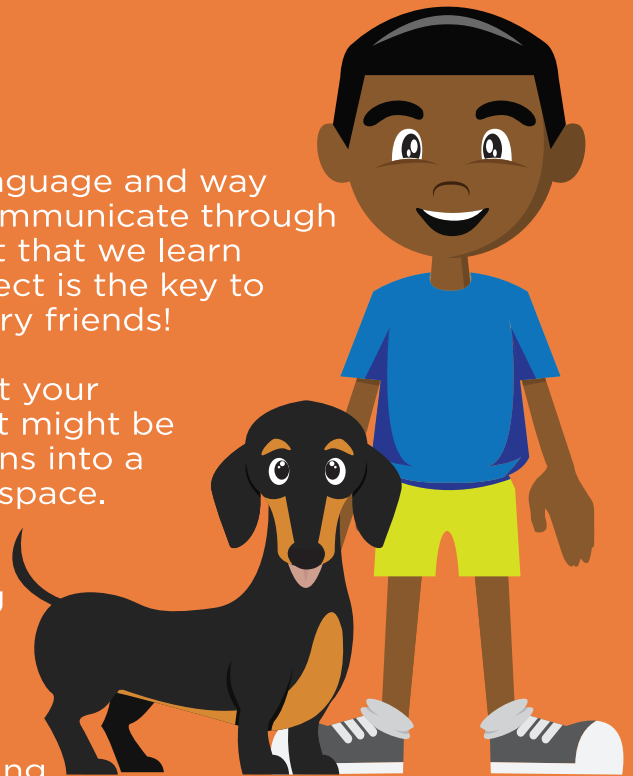
Sounds - Dogs bark and cats meow in an effort to get your attention. They might be hungry or ready to play, or it might be time for a bathroom break. When a bark or meow turns into a growl or a hiss, your pet is unhappy and needs some space.

Tail Wagging - Your pet's tail can tell you all kinds of things. If a cat's tail is high and tall, they are feeling curious. If it is wagging from side to side, your cat is feeling agitated. If it is puffy, your cat is experiencing fear. If your dog's tail is wagging loosely from side to side, the dog is feeling friendly. If his tail is between his legs, he is feeling scared. If your pup's tail is pointing up and wagging quickly, he is feeling threatened and may need a break.

Ears and Eyes - When your cat lays back his ears and widens his eyes, he is ready for a hunt. When cats blink, it is a sign that they are comfortable around you. If a cat's or dog's eyes get very big, they are feeling afraid or upset. Dog's ears are also good indicators of how they are feeling. If they are up, your dog is listening to something. If his ears are flattened, he is feeling scared.

Running Away, Cowering, or Hiding - If your pet is doing any of these things, he wants to be left alone. Be sure to give him space!

By listening to what your pet is trying to say, you'll become even better friends!



VBSPCA Animal Awareness Cards

Collect all four and win a prize!

Each edition of the Pawsitive Press will feature a VBSPCA animal. Collect four Animal Awareness Cards and bring them in to the VBSPCA to receive a special prize.

This beauty is Buttercup! We do not know much about her previous life, but while at the VBSPCA Buttercup has been a sweet, affectionate girl with a sprinkle of sass! She enjoys lazy days and spends most of her time snuggling up in her bed or on her human's lap. She would love to find a calm home of her own where she could soak up the sunshine and birdwatch from the comfort of her very own cat tree.

If you are looking for a furry friend and think you have the perfect home for Buttercup come by the shelter to meet her.



Here's Looking at You, Kids!

Congratulations to the winners of our Junior Picasso Youth Art Competition!

We asked children to submit animal-inspired artwork for a chance to have their masterpiece featured here at the VBSPCA shelter and at the Virginia Beach Art Center. Great job to everyone who participated!

Ages 11-13

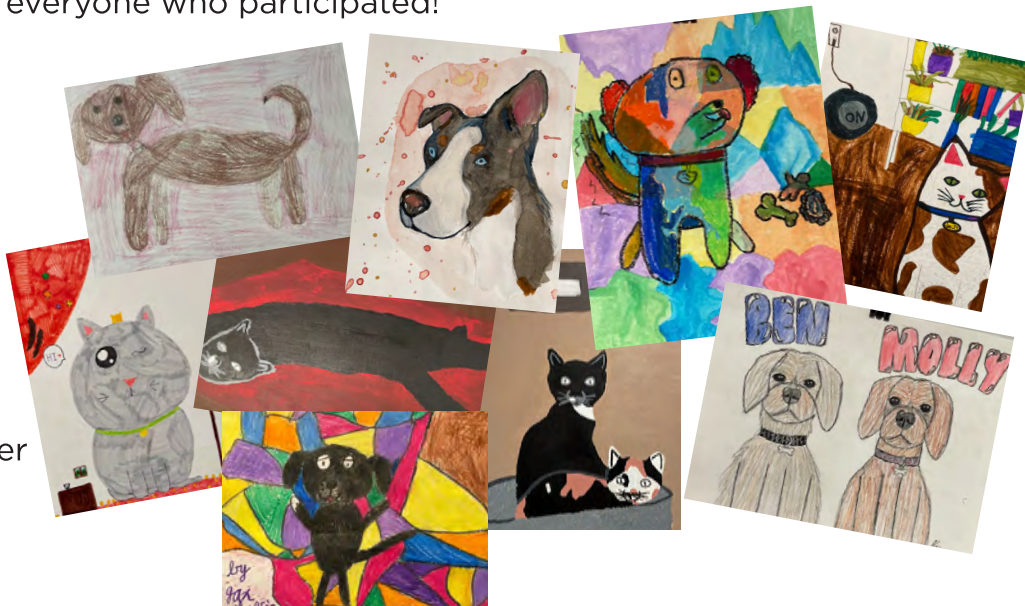
Reagan Phillips
Jazmin Pacheco
Elise Maisenbacher

Ages 9-10

Kate Knightes
Lujane El Jazzar
Connor Rivers

Ages 6-8

Amalie Maisenbacher
Jax LaVigne
Gabriella Good



Thank you to our 2021 Humane Education Partner



VBSPCA.COM

3040 HOLLAND RD. VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Upcoming Fun

April 22nd

Celebrate Earth Day and do something kind for the planet

May 1st-31st

Print a VBSPCA Kindness Calendar and participate with family and friends

May - August

Change For Change Summer Challenge
Help us raise money for the animals

For additional details on how to get involved visit vbspca.com/education